

2002 Base Guide

EDWARDS

Air Force Base

Home of the Air Force Flight Test Center

California

Edwards AFB QUICK REFERENCE Phone List

Base Information: 277-1110/2777 • Area Code for Edwards Air Force Base, California is (661) • <http://www.edwards.af.mil>

Accounting & Finance Division	277-4550	Locator, Air Force Military & Civilian	277-1110
Aero Club	275-AERO/275-2376	Lodging (High Desert Inn)	275-ROOM/275-7666
Aerobics Center	275-BFIT/275-2348	Lodging Switchboard	258-8335
Air Base Wing Command Section	277-3010	Media Relations	277-4127
Air Force Aid Society	277-0723	Medical & Dental Care:	
After Duty Hours	277-3040	Active Duty Sick Call	277-7118
Air Force Flight Test Center		After-hours Care	277-7118
Command Section	277-2305	Central Appointments	277-7118
Air Force Research Laboratory Public Affairs	275-5465	Dental Clinic	277-2872
Anthony's Pizza	258-4034	Family Practice	277-4389
Area Defense Counsel	277-2809	Flight Surgeon's Office	277-2906
Bank, Armed Forces	258-0183	Immunizations	277-3427
Barber Shop (BX)	277-2946	Managed Care Office	277-6969
Barber Shop (Troop Store)	277-4297	Pharmacy	277-8986
Base Exchange: Main Store	258-1078	TRICARE Service Center	(800) 242-6788
Base Operations	277-2222	Military Equal Opportunity Office	277-4440
Baskin Robbins	258-1078 x 256	Military Personnel Flight	277-2276
Beauty Shop	258-5371	NASA Public Affairs	276-3449
Blue Eagles Honor Guard	275-BLUE/275-2583	NASA Switchboard	276-3311
Burger King	258-5987	N&N Travel Office (official)	277-3160
Cactus Cafe	275-CAFE/275-2233	Oasis Community Center	275-CNTR/275-2687
Car Care Center	258-5091	Oasis Deli	275-MEAL/275-6325
Car Rental, Enterprise	258-1586	Operator Assistance	277-1110
Chapel #1	277-6976	Outdoor Recreation	275-CAMP/275-2267
Chapel #2	277-2110	Pancho's Lounge	275-CLUB
After Duty Hours	277-3040	Pass & ID and vehicle registration	277-7403
Child Development Center	275-TOTS/275-8687	Pet Supply & Grooming	258-0888
Civil Engineering Emergency Desk	277-3330	Pizza Hut	258-4907
Civilian Personnel Office	277-3840	Popeye's Chicken	258-1078 x 257
Class Six, Package Store	277-0709	Postal Services:	
Club Muroc	275-CLUB/275-2582	Military Postal Service	277-4395
Command Post	277-3040	U.S. Postal Service	(800) 275-8777
Commander's Access Channel-Channel 6	277-2345	Preferred Plus	275-PLUS/275-7587
Commissary	277-4589	Protocol Office	277-3326
Contracting	277-8438	Public Affairs/Air Force Flight Test Center	277-3510
Credit Union	277-9639/40	Red Cross, Landcaster	(661) 267-0650
Defense Reutilization Marketing Office (DRMO)	277-8071	After Duty Hours	277-3040
Desert Wings	277-2345	Retiree Activity Office	277-4931
Designated Drivers Program	277-6006	Riding Club	275-PONY/275-7669
Disaster Preparedness	277-4433	Robin Hood Sandwich Shop	258-4034
Dry Cleaners/Laundry	258-4606	Rod & Gun	275-TRAP/275-8727
Education Center	277-2713	Rumor Control	277-3510
EMERGENCY		Safety Division	277-3316
(Fire, Paramedic, Security Forces)	911	Sandbagger Grill	275-SAND
Explosive Ordnance Disposal	277-2162	Schools: District Office	258-4356
Family Child Care Program	275-4FCC/275-4322	Base Schools Switchboard	258-4411
Family Readiness	277-0722	Security Forces	277-3340
Family Services	277-2246	Services	277-3802
Family Support Center	277-0723	Shoppette	258-0709
Finance	277-4550	Skills Center	
Fitness & Sports Center	275-GYM1/275-4961	Arts & Crafts	275-ARTS/275-2787
Fitness Annex	275-GYM2/275-4962	Auto	275-AUTO/275-2886
Flower Shop	258-5084	Stripes Lounge	275-CLUB
Fogelman's Lounge	275-CLUB	Supply Stock Control	277-8702
Gas Station	258-5037	Swimming Pools:	
Gates		Club Muroc	277-3551
North	277-4407	Oasis Aquatic Center	275-SWIM/275-7946
South	275-8253	Youth Pool	277-3552
West	275-8297	Taco Bell	258-1078 x 258
Golf Course	275-PUTT/275-7888	Taxi (Official Base Use Only)	277-2620
Sandbagger Grill	275-SAND/275-7263	Teen Center	275-TEEN/275-8336
Health & Wellness Center	275-HAWC/275-4292	Telephone Information, Base	411
High Desert Bowling Center	275-BOWL/275-2695	Telephone Repair, Base	611
Bowling Center Snack Bar	275-ZONE/275-9663	Test Wing Command Section	277-4140
Household Goods: Inbound	277-7888	Thai Gardens Restaurant	258-0186
Outbound	277-7897	Theater	275-SHOW/275-7469
Housing Maintenance	258-4461	Thrift Store	277-4294
Housing Office	277-4506	Traffic Management Office	277-3601
Information, Tickets and Travel (leisure)	275-TRIP/275-8747	Troop Store	258-4797
IT Customer Support Center	277-3444	Truck Rental, U-Haul	258-4319
Joshua Tree Dining Hall	275-TREE/275-8733	Veterinary Clinic	275-PETS/5-7387
Legal Assistance	277-4310	Weather Forecasting	277-4472
Library	275-BOOK/275-2665	Youth Center	275-KIDS/275-5437
Children's Library	275-READ/275-7323	Youth Center Annex	275-PLAY/275-7529

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EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE - A Guide for 2002 -

AIR FORCE FLIGHT TEST CENTER

AFFTC COMMANDER
Maj Gen Wilbert D. Pearson

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTING DIRECTOR
Mr. Dennis Shoffner

DEPUTY CHIEF, AFFTC NEWS SERVICE
Ms. Dawn R. Waldman

AFFTC Public Affairs
1 S. Rosamond Blvd.
Edwards AFB, CA 93524
(661) 277-3510
E-mail: afftc.pa@edwards.af.mil
URL: www.edwards.af.mil



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AQP, Inc.

Corporate Headquarters:
401 W. International Airport Road, Suite 13
Anchorage, Alaska 99518
(907) 562-9300; Fax: (907) 562-9311
E-mail: aqp@alaskapub.com
URL: www.alaskapub.com

EDITORIAL

EDITOR Ron Dalby
ART DIRECTOR Angel D. Nichols
GRAPHIC ARTISTS Kathryn Fava
Randall Yost
PHOTOGRAPHER John Wilson

BUSINESS

PUBLISHER Robert R. Ulin
PROJECT MANAGER .. Chris Kersbergen

PRINTED BY

A.T. PUBLISHING AND PRINTING, INC.
1720 Abbott Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-3443
(907) 349-7506
E-mail: atpub@alaska.net

Cover Photo:
Courtesy Photo, Edwards AFB

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Welcome to **EDWARDS** **AIR FORCE BASE** & *The* **Air Force Flight**

Welcome to Edwards Air Force Base and the Air Force Flight Test Center! Whether you are here for a short visit or being assigned for a tour of duty, I sincerely hope that your stay is enjoyable.

Edwards is where tomorrow's Air Force is tested, and all of us who live and work here are extremely proud of this installation, its rich history and the role it has had in the advancement of military air power and the state-of-the-art of aviation in general.

From the development of America's first jet aircraft, the Bell XP-59A Airacomet, to our Nation's newest air dominance fighter, the F-22 Raptor, Edwards has been home to virtually every aircraft to enter the Air Force inventory since World War II.

Edwards was where the sound barrier was first

broken by Capt. Chuck Yeager in the Bell X-1 on Oct. 14, 1947, and where other X-planes pushed that record to two, three, four, five and six times the speed of sound and beyond. It was here that the X-15 probed the threshold of space and where the Space Shuttle first took wing and then landed on its initial return from earth orbit.

Edwards is also home to NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center, the Air Force Research Laboratory's Propulsion Directorate, Detachment 7, and considerable test activity conducted by America's commercial aerospace industry.

Test Center

Our unique combination of geography and climate makes Edwards a true national asset. But the real strength of Edwards is the men and women who work here—their energy, commitment and professionalism. The motto of the Air Force Flight Test Center is “Ad Inexplorata,” which translates from the Latin into “Toward the Unexplored.” While you’re at Edwards, I hope you’ll get to know them and come to understand just exactly what that motto means to all who serve here.

Again, a hearty welcome and best wishes from all of us for a most enjoyable stay.



Doug Pearson

WILBERT D. PEARSON
Major General, USAF
Commander
Air Force Flight Test Center

HISTORY

The Natural Setting

A parched and forbidding wilderness to those who first see it, the northwestern Mojave Desert is a land of coyotes and kangaroo rats, of ragged greasewood and, of course, Joshua trees. It is a harsh land of sometimes stunning contrasts—a land of griddle-hot days and bone-chilling nights, of violent dust storms, bewildering mirages and mesmerizing sunsets.

Until the Southern Pacific Railroad arrived in 1876, it was populated mostly by occasional prospectors drifting endlessly in pursuit of elusive mineral wealth. In 1882, the Santa Fe Railroad ran a line westward out of Barstow toward Mojave and built a water stop at the edge of an immense dry lakebed, roughly 20 miles southeast of Mojave. The lonely water stop was known simply as “Rod,” and the lakebed was then called Rodriguez Dry Lake.

By the early 1900s, Rodriguez had been anglicized into Rodgers, which was, in turn, shortened to Rogers. First formed in the Pleistocene Epoch and featuring an extremely flat, smooth and concrete-like surface, Rogers Dry Lakebed is a playa—or pluvial lake—which spreads out over 44 square miles, making it the largest such geological formation in the world. Its parched clay and silt surface undergoes a timeless cycle of renewal each year, as water from winter rains is swept back and forth by desert winds, smoothing it out to an almost glass-like flatness.

1900s

The Homesteaders

In 1910, the Corum family settled at the edge of this lakebed. In addition to raising alfalfa and turkeys, they located other homesteaders in the area for a fee of \$1 per acre. As those settlers moved in, the Corum brothers earned contracts for drilling their water wells and clearing their land. They also opened a general store and post office. Their request to have the post office stop named “Corum” was disallowed because there was already a Coram, Calif. So they simply reversed the spelling of their name, which became “Muroc.” Small, isolated homesteads dotted the land over the next 20 years.



The Corum's tiny one-room general store eventually grew into the Muroc Mercantile Company and Post Office, a landmark at Muroc until 1953.

1930s

The Airmen Arrive

The early homesteaders thought of Rogers Dry Lakebed as a wasteland. However, a visionary airman commanding March Field, Lt. Col. H.H. “Hap” Arnold, saw it as a one-of-a-kind natural aerodrome—one that could be acquired at virtually no cost to the taxpayer. Thus, in September 1933, the Muroc Bombing and Gunnery Range was established by Arnold. This remote training site, now a small enclave within present-day Edwards, served the Army Air Corps’ bombers and fighters for several years. With the arrival of World War II, a permanent base sprang up for the training of combat flight crews. In July 1942, it was activated as a separate post and designated Muroc Army Air Base. Throughout the war years, B-24s thundered through the Muroc skies and P-38s strafed the targets on the range as bomber crews and fighter pilots prepared to do battle overseas.



Muroc Bombing and Gunnery Range, 1936.

1940s

Strange Shapes in the Sky

In the meantime, wartime development of military aviation overwhelmed Wright Field in Ohio with an immense volume of flight test work. It was necessary to find a remote location with good flying weather where a new top-secret airplane could safely undergo tests.

In the spring of 1942, a site was chosen alongside the north shore of Rogers Dry Lakebed, about six miles away from the training base at Muroc. A wooden hangar and rudimentary facilities sprang up and, on Oct. 1, 1942, Bell test pilot Bob Stanley lifted the wheels of the Bell XP-59A Airacomet off the enormous, flat surface of the dry lakebed. The turbojet revolution had arrived. America's first jet plane was shortly joined by a second, the famed Lockheed XP-80 Shooting Star.

As revolutionary as these two experimental fighter planes were, the natural runways of the lakebed served them well. Their first-generation turbojet engines had a nasty habit of flaming out, and the Airacomet required an extremely long takeoff roll. During the postwar years, all of America's first generation of jets—both Air Force and Navy—underwent testing at Muroc, and the great lakebed served as a welcome haven to countless pilots in distress.

The success of these programs attracted a new type of

research activity to the base in late 1946. The rocket-powered Bell X-1 was the first in a long series of experimental airplanes designed to prove or disprove aeronautical concepts, to probe the most challenging unknowns of flight and solve their mysteries.

On Oct. 14, 1947, Capt. Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager flew the small bullet-shaped airplane to become the first human to exceed the speed of sound. With the X-1, flight testing at Muroc began to assume two distinct identities. Highly experimental research programs—such as the X-3, X-4, X-5 and XF-92A—were typically flown in conjunction with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, or NACA, and were conducted in a methodical fashion to answer largely theoretical questions. Then, as now, the great bulk of test flight at Muroc focused on evaluations of the capabilities of aircraft and systems proposed for the operational inventory.

In December 1949, Muroc was renamed Edwards Air Force Base in honor of Capt. Glen W. Edwards, who had been killed a year earlier in the crash of the YB-49 Flying Wing.

By that time, the base had already become the reigning center of American flight research and, on June 25, 1951, this fact was officially recognized when its test community

was designated the U.S. Air Force Flight Test Center, or AFFTC. That same year, the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School moved to Edwards from Wright Field, Ohio. Its curriculum focused on the traditional field of performance testing and the relatively new field of stability and control, which had suddenly assumed critical importance with the dramatic increases in speed offered by the new turbojets.



Capt. Charles "Chuck" Yeager and the supersonic mission's project engineer, Capt. Jack Ridley, stand before the Bell X-1 hanging beneath the mothership B-52.



The Bell XP-59A Airacomet rolls out for its maiden flight, ushering in the turbojet revolution.



The "Century Series" Fleet of turbojet fighters in flight, including the F-100, F-101, F-102 and F-104.

1957 NASA photo

1950s

The Golden Age of Flight Test

The decade of the 1950s was a remarkable period in the history of aviation, and there was no better evidence of this than what transpired at Edwards. If the concept seemed feasible—or even just desirable—it was evaluated in the skies above the sprawling 301,000-acre base.

The experimental rocket planes, for example, continued to expand the boundaries of the high-speed and stratospheric frontiers.

As the decade opened, the first-generation X-1's Mach 1.45 (957 mph) and 71,902-foot altitude represented the edge of the envelope. The D-558-II Douglas Skyrocket soon surpassed these marks. In 1951, Douglas test pilot Bill Bridgeman flew it to a top speed of Mach 1.88 (1,180 mph) and a peak altitude of 74,494 feet. Then, in 1953, Marine test pilot Lt. Col. Marion Carl flew it to an altitude of 83,235 feet. On Nov. 20, 1951, NACA's Scott Crossfield became the first man to reach Mach 2 as he piloted the Skyrocket to a speed of Mach 2.005 (1,291 mph). Less than a month later, Maj. Chuck Yeager topped this record as he piloted the second-generation Bell X-1A to a top speed of Mach 2.44 (1,650 mph) and, just nine months later, Maj. Arthur "Kit" Murray flew the same airplane to a new altitude record of 90,440 feet.

These records stood for less than three years. In September 1956, Capt. Iven Kincheloe became the first man to soar above 100,000 feet, as he piloted the Bell X-2 to a then-remarkable altitude of 126,200 feet. Flying the same



The D-558 launches for a test flight from the B-29 mothership.

1950s NASA photo

airplane just weeks later on Sept. 27, Capt. Mel Apt became the first to exceed Mach 3, accelerating to a speed of Mach 3.2 (2,094 mph). His moment of glory was tragically brief, however. Just seconds after attaining top speed, the X-2 tumbled violently out of control and Apt was never able to recover. With the loss of the X-2, the search for many of the answers to the riddles of high-Mach flight had to be postponed until the arrival of the most ambitious of the rocket planes, the truly awesome North American X-15.

Meanwhile, the turbojet revolution had reached a high plateau at Edwards, as aircraft such as the famed "Century Series" of fighters—the F-100 Super Sabre, F-102 Delta Dagger, the Mach 2 F-104 Starfighter, F-105 Thunderchief and F-106 Delta Dart—made supersonic flight seem almost commonplace. Incorporating many advances made possible by the experimental research programs, each of these aircraft was a dazzling technological achievement and, indeed, as a group, they defined the basic speed and altitude envelopes for fighters, which are still in effect to this day.

The Space Age

The 1960s were ushered in with a new emphasis on space flight. The Test Pilot School, for example, was re-designated the Aerospace Research Pilot School as it moved into the business of training future astronauts. High above the flightline, the X-15 was beginning to explore hypersonic and exoatmospheric flight. Indeed, in July 1962, it became the first—and, so far, only—airplane to fly in near space as it soared above 314,000 feet, winning astronaut wings for its pilot, Maj. Robert M. White. With Maj. William J. “Pete” Knight at the controls on Oct. 3, 1967, the highly modified X-15A-2 ultimately reached a top speed of Mach 6.72 (4,520 mph), which remains the highest speed ever attained by an airplane.

While space-related activities captured the public’s imagination, test pilots at Edwards were also continuing to expand the frontiers of atmospheric flight in air-breathing, jet-powered aircraft such as the XB-70 Valkyrie and the YF-12 and SR-71 Blackbirds. The mammoth, 500,000-pound Valkyrie proved itself capable of sustained triple-sonic flight operations at altitudes above 70,000 feet. In the meantime, the mysterious Blackbirds, now described as first-generation

“stealth” aircraft, provided even more dazzling performances as they routinely cruised at speeds in excess of Mach 3 and at altitudes well above 80,000 feet.

With the decline of the military manned space mission in the early 1970s, the Aerospace Research Pilot School was once again re-designated the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School. This change was more than symbolic. Based on a survey of graduates still active in the flight test business, the school completely revamped its curriculum to reflect major changes that had recently taken place in the aerospace world.

Experience had shown that the proliferation of increasingly sophisticated onboard avionics, sensor and fire control systems would be a constant and that supervising modern test programs would increasingly require strong management skills. Thus, the school replaced its space-oriented phase of curriculum with a whole new battery of courses focusing on systems test and test management.



1970s

The Modern Skies

New aircraft types arrived in the 1970s—the F-15 Eagle with its advanced engine and fire-control system, the single-engine F-16 Falcon with its revolutionary “fly-by-wire” flight control system, and the B-1 Lancer with its multitude of highly sophisticated offensive and defensive systems. These planes more than bore out the prophecy concerning the ever-increasing importance of systems testing and integration. Moreover, another major new element of complexity was soon introduced into the flight test process.

At a remote location in 1978 and 1979, an AFFTC test pilot and a pair of flight test engineers were engaged in proof-of-concept testing with Lockheed’s “low-observable” technology demonstrator, dubbed “Have Blue.” The successful conduct of these tests led immediately to the development of a new subsonic attack aircraft that was designated the F-117A Nighthawk. Another aerospace revolution—the stealth revolution—was underway.



F-16



F-117

1980s

The 1980s opened with one of the most dramatic episodes in all of Edwards’ history. At 10:20 a.m. on April 14, 1981, the wheels of the Space Shuttle Columbia touched down on Rogers Dry Lakebed. Astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen had successfully landed the first orbiting space vehicle ever to leave the Earth under rocket power and return on the wings of an aircraft. The era of reusable space vehicles had dawned.

In the meantime, flight testing itself had evolved into a remarkably complex process that led to a similar revolution in the Flight Test Center’s ability to acquire and process flight data. In fact, the extraordinary number of costly flying hours required to test and integrate all of the new systems under the traditional “fly-fix-fly” method had forced the AFFTC to rethink its whole approach to the business of testing. Thus, the decade also saw the development of sophisticated

new facilities at Edwards that met the challenge of the new technologies.

The Integration Facility for Avionic Systems Test; the Benefield Anechoic Facility; and the Test and Evaluation, Modeling and Simulation Facility, all part of the Avionics Test and Integration Complex, permitted the testing of new and complex software-intensive systems—and even their integration—on the ground before they were taken into the air.

Spectacular events have become almost commonplace at Edwards over the years, but they have always represented only a small part of the Flight Test Center’s workload. The primary job has always been to assure that American aircrews go into combat with the most effective and reliable operational aircraft in the world.

The capabilities of existing aircraft such as the F-15 and F-16, have been continuously refined and expanded, even as totally new aircraft and systems incorporating radical new technologies have been developed for future operational use.

The dual-role F-15E, for example, was developed in the 1980s and went on to demonstrate truly remarkable combat effectiveness in the Persian Gulf conflict of the early 1990s. The Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night, or LANTIRN, system revolutionized air-to-ground combat operations during the same conflict by denying our adversary the once comforting sanctuary of night.

The late 1980s also witnessed the arrival of the first giant flying wing to soar over the base in nearly 40 years. The thin silhouette, compound curves and other low-observable characteristics of the B-2 Spirit represented third-generation stealth technology, following the SR-71 and F-117. The new bomber, by far the most sophisticated and complex airplane ever built, was soon followed in the



early 1990s by the arrival of the YF-22A and the YF-23A, both of which would soon give a new definition to the term “air superiority.”

The two prototype fighters were the first airplanes to blend stealth with agility and high-speed, supersonic cruise capability. The YF-22A was selected to become the Air Force's new advanced tactical fighter after a brief demonstration and validation risk reduction flight test program. Now named the Raptor, the F-22A is undergoing evaluation at the AFFTC.

1990s *and beyond*

A new group of research projects came to Edwards in the 1990s. Global Hawk, an unmanned aerial vehicle that has been used extensively in Afghanistan, made its first flight at Edwards in February 1998 and has gone on to become a critical weapon in America's war on terrorism. The X-24, X-33, X-34 and X-38, a series of new lifting bodies, technology demonstrators and half-scale models that might make space flight, research and development safer and more economical, were tested here by NASA during the decade.

The new millennium brought new projects with world-wide impact. The X-35A and X-32A, competing models for the Joint Strike Fighter program, made their first flights in September and October 2000. The X-35A won the competition in 2001 and will eventually be built in various versions for America's flying armed services and for foreign air forces as well.

Where We Stand T O D A Y

Flight testing at Edwards has traveled a long way since the first olive-drab XP-59A lifted off from the lakebed more than five decades ago. Over the years, the U.S. Air Force and the world of aerospace have continued to meet the future in the clear blue skies above the base. Every single aircraft to enter the Air Force's inventory—and a great many that failed to do so—has first been put through its paces at Edwards, to say nothing of Navy and Army aircraft as well.

Arguably, more major milestones in flight have occurred at this base than anywhere else in the world. The ever-accelerating pace of technological change over the past half-century has been daunting, but the Edwards flight test community has repeatedly demonstrated its ability to adapt to these changes and to master the many challenges they impose. The turbojet revolutions, the space revolution, the systems revolution and, now, the stealth revolution have imposed seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Each barrier, however, has been overcome through a combination of technical skill, daring ingenuity and skillful management.

Indeed, the Air Force Flight Test Center's unique blend of natural, technical and human resources has transformed it into something much more than just a benefit to the Air Force; it has become an irreplaceable national asset.

The Space Shuttle Discovery's drag chute deploys to slow its landing.



MISSION

Air Force Flight Test Center

The Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., is the Air Force Materiel Command center of excellence for research, development and test and evaluation of aerospace systems for the United States and its allies. It operates the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School and is home to NASA's Dryden Research Center and to considerable test activity conducted by America's commercial aerospace industry. From the development of the country's first jet aircraft to the Air Force's newest fighter, the F-22 Raptor, the test forces at Edwards have played a role in virtually every aircraft to enter the Air Force inventory since the World War II. This combat support establishes the Flight Test Center's direct and tangible link to the warfighter.

Guiding this considerable tasking is the Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters. Led by a two-star general and his command section, Flight Test Center staff agencies included comptroller, contracting, environmental management, history, information technology, inspector general, intelligence, plans, protocol, public affairs, safety, small-business office and the staff judge advocate office.

The two major organizations carrying out the Center's mission are the 412th Test Wing and the 95th Air Base Wing, with their mix of nearly 6,000 service members and government employees.

The 412th Test Wing manages the

Center's flight operations programs and functions. In doing so, it manages all engineering support for manned and unmanned aerospace vehicle test programs. With many different types of planes operated by the 412th aircrews, the Edwards flight line takes on an almost expeditionary aerospace force look. The aircraft flown here include the B-1B, B-2, B-52H, C-12C, C-17A, NKC-135B/3, KC-135R, C-135C/E, CV-22B, F-15/A/B/C/D/E, N/F-16A/B/C/D, F-22A, YF-117A, A/T38A/B/C, NT-39A/B, T-39A, T-3A, X-45A, and RQ-4A. Additionally the Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicle and L-23 glider are tested at Edwards. The Airborne Laser 747 test platform will arrive in late 2002 for testing and in 2005 the X-35 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft will be tested here.

Additionally, the 412th Test Wing programs, develops, operates and maintains engineering technical services and facilities to support testing, as well as operates and manages logistic support.

The Test Wing's support-side counterpart, the 95th Air Base Wing, runs Edwards like a small town, delivering a quality of life that makes the base a great place to live and work. The Air Base Wing maintains the security, roads, buildings, transportation and community support services that make the flight-test mission possible. It provides the housing, childcare, recreational activities and medical care that affect every person on base. Without the Air Base Wing, the Flight Test Center could not succeed in helping to keep our Air Force the world's finest.

A Global Hawk unmanned aerial reconnaissance system.

AIR FORCE FLIGHT TEST CENTER



TEST WING AND AIR BASE WING STRUCTURE:

412TH TEST WING

412th Operations Group

- 410th Flight Test Squadron
- 411th Flight Test Squadron
- 412th Flight Test Squadron
- 412th Operations Support Squadron
- 416th Flight Test Squadron
- 418th Flight Test Squadron
- 419th Flight Test Squadron
- 445th Flight Test Squadron
- 452nd Flight Test Squadron

95th Air Base Wing

95th Command Post

95th Chaplains Office

95th Military Equal Opportunity Office

95th Plans and Programs Office

AFFTC Museum

95th Civil Engineer Group

95th Transportation Squadron

95th Medical Group

95th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

95th Medical Operations Squadron

95th Medical Support Squadron

95th Support Group

95th Mission Support Squadron

95th Security Forces Squadron

95th Services Division

Acquisition Security Division

Supply Division

DEVELOPMENTAL TEST AND EVALUATION

Edwards' contribution to the U.S. fighting forces results from test and evaluation—the bedrock of the Air Force Flight Test Center's existence.

The fundamental purpose of test and evaluation, known as T&E, is identifying risks that need to be reduced or eliminated before a system is sent to field bases. Here, the major type of test and evaluation is developmental.

Developmental T&E, known as DT&E, occurs as early as possible in the test and evaluation process and involves close collaboration with the system developer when it's still practical and affordable to change design. It serves as a bridge between system designers and operational users.

Operational test and evaluation, known as OT&E, usually done at other bases, then takes a system shaped by DT&E and determines whether it's effective and suitable for its intended task.

The present Air Force test and evaluation philosophy employs combined DT&E and OT&E to increase efficiency and to ensure participation by operational testers prior to major acquisition milestones. The Center relies on the combined test force to carry out this mission.

A combined test force, known as CTF, is an integrated

product team consisting of three separate and independent groups—a contractor test team, an Air Force developmental test team and an Air Force initial operational test team—working together to meet respective taskings. The purpose of the CTF concept is to minimize duplication and accomplish required test programs while conserving resources.

Besides flight test, the Flight Test Center has an array of ground test facilities. The Avionics Test and Integration Complex, which includes the massive Benefield Anechoic Facility, allows for complete testing of a fully integrated avionics suite in a simulated flight environment, including electronic threats and computer software checkout. For example, when aircraft systems are tested for integration with other on-board functions, a plane is placed inside the BAF's anechoic chamber, the world's largest electronically secure and quiet environment that realistically simulates an outdoor range. The benefit of this and other modeling and simulation is safer, less expensive testing.

Other aircraft test resources at Edwards range from general support aircraft to extensively modified weapon systems with a full range of instrumentation. Some of the Center's flight test engineering capabilities focus on propulsion, human factors, manned and unmanned aerospace vehicles, access to space, weapon delivery and parachute equipment.

B-52 undergoing testing in the Benefield Anechoic Facility.



Linked to Global Engagement

These and other disciplines directly link Edwards to a vision for the 21st century—America's Air Force. Global Vigilance, Reach and Power—and its six core competencies: air and space superiority, global attack, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority, agile combat support, and command and control. How?

- By ensuring weapon systems—needed to control what moves through air and space—perform as advertised;
- By ensuring long-range combat platforms can reach beyond friendly borders and can respond effectively in any crisis;
- By ensuring airlift and aerial refueling aircraft can move forces and firepower to anywhere in the world at any time;
- By ensuring fighters and bombers can successfully apply selective force against specific targets;
- By ensuring intelligence-gathering planes and unmanned aerial vehicles can deliver powerful knowledge; and
- By ensuring Edwards troops are trained thoroughly to join an air expeditionary force deploying to a global hot spot.

As the Air Force moves steadily toward an expeditionary aerospace force, the Center will march in step with its T&E mission.

A KC-135 refuels a B-2 Spirit.

ASSOCIATES

18TH SPACE SURVEILLANCE SQUADRON

12 Laboratory Road,

(661) 277-8672 or DSN 527-8672

18th SPSS, located at Edwards since 1994, is an Air Force Space Command geographically separated unit of the 21st Operations Group, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

The mission of the squadron is direct support to the U.S. commander in chief and Space Command's space control mission through optical space surveillance, including detection, tracking, identification and special signature collection of near-space and deep-space objects.

To accomplish the unit's mission, the squadron controls a network of optical sensors in four worldwide locations. Three ground-based electro-optical deep-space surveillance, or GEODSS, units are located at Socorro, N.M.; Diego Garcia; and Maui, Hawaii. In addition to GEODSS sensors, the squadron operates the Maui Space Surveillance System and the transportable optical system, Moron Air Base, Spain. 18th SPSS operators control GEODSS remote telescopes from Edwards.

31 TEST AND EVALUATION SQUADRON

60 N. Wolfe Ave.,

(661) 277-2366 or DSN 527-2366

The 31st Test and Evaluation Squadron, established in 1917, is the home of Air Combat Command Operation's maintenance and engineering experts who test, assess, and evaluate effectiveness and suitability of new U.S. Air Force weapons systems designs. The Desert Pirates, as they are called, are the sole ACC organization at Edwards and are part of the 53rd Test and Evaluation Group, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and the 53rd Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The 31st represents the operational combat user during early flight testing to ensure the warfighter receives the world's best operational systems.

The unit is manned with operations, maintenance and engineering experts who plan and conduct tests, evaluate effectiveness and suitability, and influence system designs with an operational perspective. Unit personnel are



The "B's", a B-52, B-1 and B-2 fly in formation over mountainous terrain.

integrated into the F-22, B-1, B-2, B-52, Global Hawk and Airborne Laser programs. Their results and conclusions support Department of Defense acquisition, deployment and employment decisions.

AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND, STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SQUADRON, DETACHMENT 1

118 South Wolfe Ave.,

(661) 277-3501 or DSN 527-3501

Detachment 1, AETC SAS is a component of headquarters AETC and supports all agencies in the Department of Defense and NATO in the development, assessment and analysis of training systems during the acquisition process. At Edwards, Detachment 1 assists in the development of maintenance training for brand new acquisition systems, such as the Joint Strike Fighter, and augments the mission of Detachment 5, Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, through training assessment.

F-22 Raptor

AIR FORCE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS, DETACHMENT 111

15 S. Muroc Drive,

(661) 277-2208 or DSN 527-2208

AFOSI, Detachment 111 provides special investigative services for the protection of Air Force and Department of Defense personnel, operations and material at Edwards. The unit strives to exploit counterintelligence activities for force protection, resolve crime impacting the community, combat threats to information systems and technologies, and defeat and deter acquisition fraud.

AIR FORCE OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION CENTER, DETACHMENT 5

192 E. Yeager Blvd.,

(661) 277-3617 or DSN 527-3617

Detachment 5, a component of the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., helps to ensure the nation's warfighters and logisticians have the right tools to accomplish the mission effectively. The Detachment focuses on operational testing, the critical follow-on process to the Air Force Flight Test Center's developmental test and evaluation emphasis. AFOTEC personnel work closely with the Test Center's combined test forces for early involvement, resource conservation and operational realism in flight test programming.

AIR FORCE OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION CENTER, DETACHMENT 6

365 N. Flightline Road,

(661) 275-3568 or DSN 525-3568

Detachment 6, which became operational October 1, 2001, is the newest of AFOTEC's detachments and is responsible for the operational test and evaluation of the Air Force's new air-superiority fighter, the F-22 Raptor. The Detachment 6 charter is to evaluate the effectiveness and suitability of the F-22 in an operationally realistic environment to ensure our warfighters receive the best overall air



combat vehicle possible. Detachment 6 personnel at Edwards include logisticians, engineers and pilots who work with the Air Force Flight Test Center's F-22 Combined Test Force. Detachment 6 also has personnel at AFOTEC Headquarters at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., including the F-22 operational test program manager, logisticians, analysts and operations support staff to provide coordination between locations.

F-15 E Strike Eagle



F-117

AIR FORCE PLANT 42 PRODUCTION FLIGHT TEST INSTALLATION

Palmdale, Calif.

Air Force Plant 42 is a government-owned, contractor-operated facility with proximity to both the concentration of aerospace industry in Los Angeles and the high-speed corridors and resources of the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards. The facility is uniquely situated to fully support the nation's newest and most advanced commercial and military aerospace systems. Air Force Plant 42 is one of five Air Force plants located throughout the United States and differs in that it hosts three major aircraft corporations: Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman.

The mission of Air Force Plant 42 is to provide industrial facilities for production, modification, and depot maintenance and flight test of U.S. aerospace systems.

Air Force Plant 42 is composed of the following military units as well as the three DoD contractors mentioned above:

AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS CENTER, DETACHMENT 1

2503 E. Ave. P, Palmdale, Calif.,
(661) 272-6770

Detachment 1, a component of ASC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, provides command and control of Air Force Plant 42, airfield complex and industrial facilities used for production, modification, depot maintenance and flight test of U.S. aerospace systems. The unit provides security, airfield management, maintenance and engineering support, fire protection, crash and rescue, recovery and safety, information management, and contract and property management.

410TH FLIGHT TEST SQUADRON/F-117 COMBINED TEST FORCE

15th St. E. and Ave. P, Palmdale, Calif.
(661) 572-5190

The 410th Flight Test Squadron, part of the 412th Test Wing and Air Force Flight Test Center, provides operational F-117A support by conducting all developmental test and evaluation and depot maintenance acceptance flights prior to return to operational units.

645TH MATERIEL SQUADRON, DETACHMENT 4

1011 Lockheed Way, Palmdale, Calif.
(661) 572-1267

Detachment 4 of the 645th Materiel Squadron, a component of Aeronautical Systems Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, provides on-site management; direction and control over the acquisition, modification, maintenance, testing, training and logistics support of special purpose aircraft; and other sensitive, high-priority projects as directed by the Air Force.

WARNER ROBINS AIR LOGISTICS CENTER, DETACHMENT 2

2030 E. Ave. M, Palmdale, Calif.
(661) 277-4000

Detachment 2, a unit of Warner Robins ALC, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., is the sole Air Force unit responsible for planning, conducting and reporting on all U-2 flight test programs. The unit conducts U-2 developmental and operational mission support and post-depot maintenance acceptance flights. The unit also provides quality assurance oversight of depot and flight test maintenance activity and validates technical changes to the aircraft, equipment and technical publications.

AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY, PROPULSION DIRECTORATE, DETACHMENT 7

Public Affairs Office,
5 Pollux Drive,
(661) 275-5465 or DSN 525-5465
www.pr.afrl.af.mil

Development of rocket propulsion technologies for future Air Force space and missile systems is the responsibility of the Air Force Research Laboratory's Propulsion Directorate at Edwards.

The Air Force Research Laboratory, headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, encompasses all Air Force research and development with directorates and facilities throughout the United States.

The directorate here has devoted its efforts to the discovery, development and application of scientific and engineering answers to national defense rocket propulsion needs for the past 50 years.

More than 250 scientists, engineers, technicians and support staff advance this technology area. They are assisted by additional on-site contractors and base-support organizations.

The Propulsion Directorate is the development center for all Air Force rocket and missile propulsion technologies including propellants, combustion, characterization of exhaust plumes, and materials and structures unique to rocket propulsion. Nearly every U.S. rocket-propelled system used today for tactical, ballistic launch, space launch and space operations can trace its technology back to the facility here.

The directorate's unique, state-of-the-art research equipment and physical assets cover more than 65 square miles of Edwards. They include static rocket test stands capable of holding test firings up to 10 million pounds of thrust.

Known historically as the "Rocket Site," its current efforts are devoted to a national master plan for rocket propulsion technology research involving all military services, NASA and rocket industry. Called IHRPT or Integrated High Payoff Rocket Propulsion Technology, this research, coupled with advanced propulsion concept demonstrations will push the advancement of rocket propulsion technology into the next century.

AREA DEFENSE COUNSEL

20 W. Popson Ave.,
(661) 277-2809 or DSN 527-2809

The Area Defense Counsel, the equivalent of a public defender, serves to advocate for military members involved in administrative or punitive action taken by commanders. The counsel focuses on legal issues pertaining to military justice such as letters of reprimand, Articles 15, courts-martial and medical or flying evaluation boards.

ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

W. 240 Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-1078

In a continuing effort to improve quality of life at Edwards Air Force Base, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service provides the community with services, products and retail facilities from a shoppette with a Pizza Hut to a car-care center upgraded with the installation of 24-hour credit card reader gas dispensers and Enterprise Car Rental.

Located in the 73,000-square-foot Base Exchange complex is military clothing sales, beauty and barber shops, a same-day optical shop, a florist, a video arcade, cellular phone store, alterations shop, a General Nutrition Center (GNC), and an Armed Forces Bank. Additionally, the exchange food court houses Anthony's Pizza, Baskin Robbins, Popeye's Chicken, Robin Hood and Taco Bell Express.

AAFES provides many other food franchises, concessions and snack bars, including Burger King, the Thai Garden restaurant and cafeterias at South Base, NASA and Mary's Place in Bldg. 1600. For further shopping convenience, AAFES features a shoppette complex with a Class Six, dry cleaners, pet store/groomer, laundromat and a troop store with a barber shop.



A rocket engine is tested at a test stand at the Air Force Research Laboratory, Propulsion Directorate.

CIVIL AIR PATROL, EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE COMPOSITE, SQUADRON 84

Muroc Manor, Bldg. P-1, Rest Road, South Base
(661) 277-6543 or DSN 527-6543

The Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and has three missions: fostering internal and external aerospace education; operating a cadet program including aerospace education, leadership training, physical fitness, moral leadership and an opportunity to learn to fly; and supporting emergency services through search and rescue, disaster relief and humanitarian services.

DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY

312 W. Fitzgerald Ave.
(661) 277-4589 or DSN 527-4589

The Defense Commissary Agency aims to ensure military readiness and retention of quality personnel by providing a valuable part of the military compensation package. The Edwards Commissary strives to enhance quality of life by providing groceries and household supplies at at-cost resale value. The commissary is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. A full-service deli, bakery and meat counter are available. (www.commissaries.com)

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION HIGH DESERT TRACON

100 E. Sparks Road
(661) 258-6300 or DSN 527-2023

The FAA's High Desert Terminal Radar Approach Control, radio call sign Joshua Approach, provides mission-related air traffic control services to Department of Defense and DoD-sponsored aircraft within the entire R-2508 airspace complex, encompassing nearly 25,000 square miles.

The TRACON's Department of Transportation, FAA civilian personnel also provide air traffic control services to civil aircraft within and outside the special-use airspace.

MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 46, DETACHMENT BRAVO

Two Marine Corps Reserve helicopter squadrons and a support staff, representing the command at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., relocated to Edwards in May 1999 following the closure of Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Calif. There are more than 350 Marines and sailors, with about half living in the local area and the others commuting from their homes throughout California and the United States.

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 769 (HMH-769) operates 11 CH-53E Super Stallions. Their mission is to transport heavy equipment, weapons and supplies during ship-to-shore movements and amphibious assaults.

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 764 (HMM-764) operates 13 CH-46E Sea Knights. Their mission is to transport combat troops in initial assault waves and follow-on stages of amphibious operations ashore.

Both squadrons primarily support Marines at Camp



Pendleton and 29 Palms—both located in California—while assisting Team Edwards with VIP transport, medical evacuations, photo and shuttle landing support, and other assistance during base and community emergencies.

NASA DRYDEN FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER

Public Affairs Office, Lilly Drive
(661) 276-3449

www.dfrc.nasa.gov

The Dryden Flight Research Center, NASA's premier installation for aeronautical flight research, is NASA's "Center of Excellence" for atmospheric flight operations. Its charter is to research, develop, verify and transfer advanced aeronautics, space and related technologies.

In addition to carrying out aeronautical research, the center also supports the space shuttle program as a backup landing site.

Dryden's history dates back to late 1946, when 12 employees arrived at what is now Edwards from the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory, Hampton, Virginia. Their goal was to prepare for X-1 supersonic research flights in a joint NACA-Army Air Forces-Bell Aircraft program. The NACA was NASA's predecessor.

Since the days of the X-1, the first aircraft to fly faster than the speed of sound, the center has grown in size and significance and is associated with many important milestones in aviation: supersonic and hypersonic flight, wingless lifting bodies, fly-by-wire, supercritical and forward-swept wings and space shuttles.



Main Building at NASA Dryden Flight Research Center



U.S. Army Veterinary Service provides comprehensive veterinary care to all government-owned animals..

Dryden continues to pioneer programs that support NASA's Aerospace Technology Enterprise by contributing to revolutionary leaps in technology, access to space at reduced cost and global civil aviation.

Along with research and support aircraft, Dryden assets include a high-temperature and loads-calibration laboratory, aircraft flight-instrumentation capability, a flow-visualization facility to study flow patterns, a data-analysis facility to process flight research data, and remotely piloted vehicle flight research expertise.

In addition, Dryden's Research Aircraft Integration Facility simultaneously checks aircraft flight controls, avionics, electronics and other systems. It is the only facility of its type in NASA and is designed to speed up and enhance systems integration and preflight checks on research aircraft.

Dryden has been the site of 48 shuttle landings since the first orbital flight in April 1981. After an Edwards' landing, orbiters are serviced at Dryden for ferry flights back to Kennedy Space Center in Florida atop one of NASA's two modified Boeing 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft.

U.S. ARMY VETERINARY SERVICE

900 Kincheloe Ave.

(661) 275-PETS or DSN 525-7387

The U.S. Army Veterinary Service provides comprehensive veterinary care to all government-owned animals, such as the 95th Security Forces Squadron's military working dogs, and to all servicemembers' privately-owned animals through the Veterinary Treatment Facility. The service ensures disease prevention and control programs on base and the compliance by all commercial and military food establishments with sanitary standards. The service also maintains a liaison with local veterinary professional organizations in order to provide assistance during civic emergencies.

CONTRACTORS

- **Ace Engineering, Inc.**, (661) 277-1750
- **AMPB Security Services**, (661) 277-3714
- **The Boeing Company**, (661) 275-3169/FAX (661) 277-0650
- **Chugach Management Services, Inc.**, (661) 258-4410/
FAX (661) 258-0511
- **ERC** (AFRL research in propulsion sciences), (661) 275-6178
- **General Electric**, (661)277-7350/FAX (661) 824-7287
- **Integrated Technology Works, Inc./Teltara, Inc.**
(joint venture-custodial services), (661) 258-4182/FAX (661) 258-6501
- **J-TECH** (JT3), (661) 277-9107
- **J. Torres Company (refuse/recycling)**, (661) 277-3867
- **Lockheed Martin Marietta** (F-22) (661) 277-5804
- **Lockheed Martin Fort Worth** (F-16), (661) 277-3673/
FAX (661) 277-2645
- **N & N Travel Services**, (661) 277-3160
- **Northrop/Grumman** (B-2), (661) 275-0004/FAX (661) 266-5360
- **Northrop/Grumman** (RAC), (661) 275-0609
- **Pratt & Whitney**, (661) 275-4193/FAX (661) 258-6523
- **Raytheon Aerospace**, (661) 277-9777 or 277-9790
- **Spiral Technology** (AFRL advanced research and engineering support),
(661) 275-5678
- **Sverdrup Technology** (AFRL research operations support services),
(661) 275-5618
- **Tybrin**, (661) 277-0096
- **United Paradyne**, (661) 277-3522
- **Veridian Engineering**, (661) 277-9537 or (661) 277-2764

NEWCOMERS

Whether you arrive during the day or night, weekday or weekend, your first stop should be the 24-hour arrival point at the Edwards' High Desert Inn lodging office, Bldg. 5602, 602 Honts, just off Manzanita Way, in the base housing area. Should you need directions or information upon arriving at Edwards, a security forces gate guard will be happy to assist you. A lodging officer at the Inn will have your sponsor's name and telephone number and will help you contact him or her.

In-processing is conducted at the Military Personnel Flight office, 125 Methusa Road, located in the main base area. You should visit the MPF Manning Control Unit as soon as possible after visiting the 24-hour arrival point. Ask your sponsor to escort you. You must take your personnel records and all other documents that you may have hand-carried.

The Manning Control Unit will arrange an appointment for your in-processing, which takes about two hours and includes financial processing. At the same time, you will be scheduled for several appointments, including the newcomer's briefing; traffic safety, drug and alcohol, human relations, and education briefings, and a records review. A uniform must be worn when in-processing.

In the event of an emergency while en route to Edwards, travelers should call their new unit of assignment. If that information is unknown, call the intro manager at (661) 277-2276 or DSN 527-2276 during the day or the 24-hour arrival point at (661) 277-3302/3394/4101 or DSN 527-3302/3394/4101 at any hour.



The 412th Test Wing



→ 37 CHAPEL COMMUNITY AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

See page 37 in the On-Base section of this guide.

CHILDCARE

Free Childcare for Newcomers: A maximum of 20 hours of free childcare, per child, is available to parents of all ranks who are making a permanent change of station move to or from Edwards through the Air Force Aid Society. The childcare is available within 60 days of arrival or departure and is provided by Family Childcare Program providers. Parents may apply for childcare by bringing a copy of their orders and a valid ID to the family support center at 550 S. Bailey Ave. Call the center at (661) 277-0723 or DSN 527-0723. Families who do not yet have orders should visit the center to arrange confirmation of their PCS status.

Child Development Center

1208 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.

(661) 275-TOTS or DSN 525-TOTS

The CDC, located in the housing area, provides developmental care for children 6 weeks to 5 years old for both military members and Department of Defense and NASA civilians. The CDC is open Monday through Friday and is closed all federal holidays.

Hourly care and part-day enrichment programs are available. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snacks are served on a regular basis. All meals are in accordance with USDA guidelines.

Planned activities include dramatic play, blocks, art, music, reading and writing centers, indoor and outdoor gross motor play, science and language. As part of the creative curriculum, all children are exposed to a variety of

developmental activities to promote their social, physical and cognitive growth.

Teen Center

1000 Kincheloe Ave.

(661) 275-TEEN or DSN 525-TEEN

The Teen Center, designed to allow teens a place of their own, provides after-school and weekend activities for teens ages 13 to 18 in grades seven through 12. The center is an affiliated member of the Boys and Girls Club of America and offers many B&GCA programs, as well as Air Force- and Edwards-unique programs.

The Keystone Club, a B&GCA program sponsored by the Taco Bell Foundation, provides teens ages 14 to 18 leadership opportunities within the base community. Activities include fund raising, volunteerism, team building, participation in national conventions and discussion of issues most important to base youth.

The Congressional Awards Program allows teens and young adults the opportunity to be rewarded for reaching personal goals set throughout the year in four different areas of achievement. The program strives to develop and enhance positive personal qualities such as responsibility, citizenship, and the ability to plan and organize. Participants receive certificates and medals of recognition for reaching their goals.

The Youth of the Year Program, a B&GCA initiative sponsored by Reader's Digest, recognizes teens ages 14 to 18 for overall excellence. Each teen selected will represent their individual club in state and national competitions. Award winners may receive up to \$15,000 in scholarships for post-secondary education.

The Youth Employment Skills, or YES Program, sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society, provides high school teens, specifically dependents of parents serving in the active-duty military, the opportunity to earn a post-secondary school grant of up to \$1,000 by volunteering at base agencies.

Teens on the Move, a sponsorship program run in coordination with the Family Support Center, helps teens moving from one base to another to more smoothly and quickly adjust to life in the Edwards community. Incoming teens may be matched to Edwards teen sponsors to receive information on base life from a peer's perspective before arriving.

The center features game tables, music, lounge and homework areas, Internet accessibility and video games. The center arranges programs such as a teen club, glow bowling and monthly movie-education days.



Youth Activities Center

**Main center, 24 Lathrop Drive
(661) 275-KIDS or DSN 525-5437
Annex, 1208 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 275-PLAY or DSN 525-7529**

The Youth Activities Center is the focal-point for all youth activities at Edwards. A wide range of supervised programs is available to youth ages 5 to 18. Youth 13 and older may find additional programs available through the Teen Center.

The YAC offers an array of youth, pre-teen and teen activities including dances, holiday and family events, picnics and trips. Professional instruction is available through the center for ballet, tap dance, gymnastics and karate. The center relies on both youth and parents to take an active role in shaping programs.

The School Age Program provides before and after-school childcare and is facilitated by both the Youth Activities main center and annex. The annex provides programming for students in kindergarten through second grade, while the main center provides programming for students in third through sixth grade. Activities include arts, music, dramatic play, outdoor play, science, math and reading. Transportation to and from the base schools is provided. Summer camp programs are also available. Students must have completed kindergarten to register for camp programs.

The General Youth Program provides after-school activities for children ages 9 to 12. On non-school days and during the summer, activities are provided Monday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 7 to 10 p.m.

The center also facilitates the Youth Sports and Fitness Program for children ages 5 to 18. The program offers a wide range of sports activities throughout the year and provides children a chance to compete and gain instruction and confidence in such sports as flag football, basketball, baseball, softball and soccer.

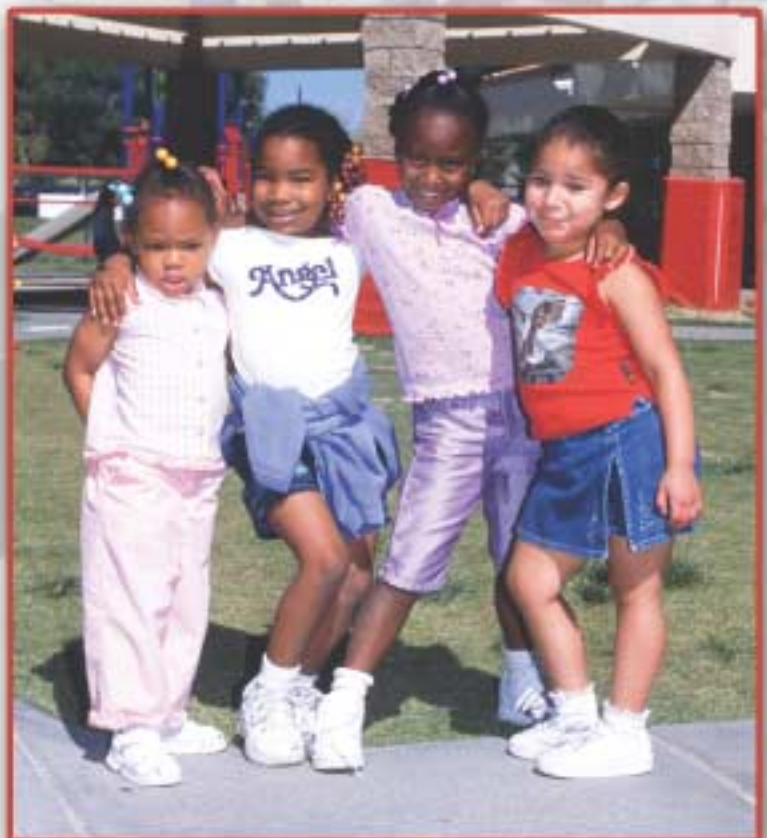
Family Childcare Program

**311 14th St.
(661) 275-4FCC or DSN 525-4FCC**

The Edwards Family Childcare program offers an alternative option for quality childcare in a home environment. Licensed providers are trained in child development theory and techniques, first aid, CPR, food handling and other related areas. Fire safety, environmental health and family childcare officials conduct inspections on all homes prior to recommending certification. Throughout the certification period, monthly unannounced inspections are conducted to ensure the health, safety and well-being of the children being cared for.

A referral list of licensed providers is available through squadron first sergeants, at the Family Childcare office, the Child Development Center and the Family Support Center. The referral list is also available on the 95th Services Division Web site at www.edwardsservices.com.

All persons providing childcare in their home for more than 10 hours per week must be licensed. Applications and information on becoming a childcare provider, or personal assistance in finding quality in-home childcare, is available at the FCC office. The office is open Monday through Friday.



COMMUTING

The two primary commuting routes to Edwards' main base are the California State Highway 14, also known as the Antelope Valley Freeway, for people living in Lancaster, Palmdale and other cities and towns to the south, and California State Highway 58 for people living north or east of Edwards. Highway 58 is the main route to reach the Air Force Research Lab.

Speed limits along these roads are in the 65-to-70-mph

range, making it practical to live relatively far from base. Traffic is rare, but as is common at all bases, it can back up at the gates during periods of increased security. There is no public transportation serving Edwards, though carpooling is encouraged. Roughly 92 percent of Edwards' civilian work force commutes daily, whereas 25 percent of the base's military work force commutes daily. A minimum commute to base is 15 minutes.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

EMERGENCIES.....911

Non-emergencies

95th Security Forces Squadron . . . (661) 277-3340/3341/3343
or . . . DSN 527-3340/3341/3343

Chaplain

Duty hours (661) 277-2110 or DSN 527-2110
after-duty hours (661) 277-3040 or DSN 527-3040

All on-base emergencies can be reported by calling 911. If using a cell phone, it is not recommended to dial 911, as the call will be relayed to the location of the cell phone service provider. Emergency cell phone calls should be made to the base fire department's communication center at (661) 277-4540 or 277-4541.

Paramedic treatment and ambulance service is available 24 hours a day by dialing 911. The 95th Security Forces Control Center is open 24 hours a day. Counseling as provided by a base chaplain is

available at any time.

Fire department emergency response is provided by a network of five fire stations located across the base. Fire Station 1 provides service to the flightline; Station 2, to the base housing area; Station 3, to the southern portion of the base; Station 4, to the Air Force Research Lab, Propulsion Directorate; and Station 5 to the northern portion of the base. Fire prevention training is available by calling (661) 277-3643/4621 or DSN 527-3643/4621.



Paramedic crews train frequently to provide skilled and efficient response 24 hours a day.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Civilian Personnel Flight

36 N. Wolfe Ave.

(661) 277-3840 or DSN 527-3840

The Civilian Personnel Flight has many types of positions available including student positions and a summer employment program. Positions range from professional and technical to administrative and trade occupations. CPO offers entry-level and senior-level management positions. Positions are open to all U.S. Citizens.

For more information about civil service employment go to <http://careers.edwards.af.mil> or call the 24-hour job information line at (661) 277-4964 or DSN 527-4964. Some positions are listed on the Air Force Personnel Center web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil> or call their job information line at (210) 652-5627.

Human Resources Office

36 N. Wolfe Ave.

(661)275-9675 or DSN 525-9675

Information about nonappropriated fund, or NAF, employment is available at the Human Resources Office or by writing to 95 SPTG/SVH, 36 N. Wolfe Ave., Edwards AFB, CA 93524-6745. NAF employment is open to off-duty military as well as family members. The NAF system employs more than 330 people and offers opportunities from entry-level laborer to technical and mid-level management positions. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis from all qualified applicants and are kept on file for 90 days.

FINANCE

5 S. Wolfe Ave.

(661) 277-4550/2441 or DSN 527-4550/2441

The Financial Services Office serves all government agencies, military and civilian personnel on base by certifying funding and providing financial management liaison between Department of Defense organizations, commercial vendors and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

The customer service lobby hours are 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 8 a.m. to

2 p.m. Wednesdays. The busiest times are usually 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Customer Service can also be contacted via e-mail at customer.service@edwards.af.mil.

The Air Force Aid Society is available for emergency financial assistance and can be contacted through personal affairs in the 95th Mission Support Squadron, located at 125 Methusa Road.

FIREARMS REGISTRATION, STORAGE AND TRANSPORT

105 E. Yeager Blvd.

(661) 277-3526 or DSN 527-3526

All base residents that maintain firearms must register their weapons with the 95th Security Forces Squadron by completing an Air Force Form 1314 in three copies with their unit commander's signature. Personnel possessing firearms must comply with all federal, state and local laws, ordinances, and military regulations on registering, storing, bearing, possessing and using firearms.

All firearms owned by or in the custody of personnel who reside in the dormitories or in Desert Villa temporary lodging facilities, while on temporary duty or in the process of a permanent change of station, must be registered and stored at the 95th SFS armory immediately upon arrival to the base. Family housing residents may maintain firearms in their homes only with their

commander's approval. Housing residents storing reloading components or ammunition in their homes must notify the installation fire department at (661) 277-3124 or DSN 527-3124.

Ammunition must be stored and locked separately from any weapon.

Transporting privately-owned firearms on base is prohibited except to and from authorized storage and shooting areas, namely the Rod and Gun Activity and the 95th SFS Combat Arms range. When transporting firearms, they must be clear, safe and unconcealed with the breech open and must be in the trunk or other secured compartment closest to the rear of the vehicle. Transporting firearms on bicycles, motorcycles or any other two or three-wheeled vehicle is prohibited.

HELPING RESOURCES

Airmen's Attic

550 S. Bailey Ave.

(661) 277-2246 or DSN 527-2246

The Airmen's Attic is part of Family Services and offers a variety of free clothes items and small household items such as dishes, pots and pans. Donations are always accepted.

American Red Cross

2715 E Ave. P, Palmdale, Calif.

Monday to Friday, during business hours

(661) 267-0650

After business hours, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

(661) 277-3040

Emergency services are available on a 24-hour basis. Red Cross services include, but are not limited to, emergency communication, financial assistance, counseling and guidance, referrals, and information regarding veteran benefits, first aid, youth programs, CPR, water safety training, blood programs, disaster preparedness and relief. Military personnel on temporary duty or unaccompanied tours are encouraged to instruct family members to contact their local Red Cross when a family emergency arises and to provide the service member's rank, social security number and unit of assignment. This will expedite the process of contacting the military member.

Chapel Food Closet

Chapel 2, 10 Park Drive

(661) 277-2110 or DSN 527-2110

The Chapel Food Closet is available to service members experiencing financial hardship and looking for assistance in obtaining food items. Referral should be made initially through first sergeants.

Equal Employment Opportunity

307 E. Popson Ave.

(661) 277-3338 or DSN 527-3338

The base EEO office strives to eliminate barriers to equality of opportunity in employment as concerns federal employees, both Department of Defense civilians and non-appropriated fund employees, as well as applicants for employment. EEO also ensures employee complaints of discrimination are given fair and fast consideration. Mediation is available as a private, informal means of dispute resolution.

Family Support Center

550 S. Bailey Ave.

(661) 277-0723 or DSN 527-0723

The Family Support Center supports the Air Force mission by supporting the Air Force "family." The FSC serves all active duty, Department of Defense civilians, Guard, Reserves, retirees and their family members. The FSC provides individual consultations, workshops and products to help people remain mission ready and enjoy a high quality of life. Watch the Commander Access Channel, Channel 6; read the *Desert Wings*, FSC monthly calendar and the calendar on the Year of the Family Web site at www.edwards.af.mil/yofam or drop by the FSC to learn more about current programs.

Key programs available at the center include the following:

◆ **Air Force Aid Society** assistance is available 24 hours, 7 days a week for active duty Air Force members and their spouses who need funds for emergencies or for humanitarian purposes. Non-emergencies can be scheduled during regular office hours. Call the command post at 277-3034 for after duty hour emergencies. Assistance is normally in the form of interest-free loans or grants. The Air Force Aid Society also provides funds to support a variety of community-enhancement programs that include various childcare programs as well as programs for expectant mothers and new parents.



Family Support personnel provide assistance with library resources.

◆ **Career Focus** provides employment and self-development workshops and assistance for military spouses, family members and civil-service employees. A computer resource room and extended library compliment the classes and individual consultations.

◆ **Family Life Education** offers classes such as change management, effective parenting and couples' communication to assist with family and relationship issues.

◆ **Family Readiness** helps families prepare for extended temporary duty and deployment separation. FSC offers several methods for keeping in touch with loved ones, two monthly meetings of Hearts Apart, a support group, and several special incentives for active members of Hearts Apart. Children are welcome to attend with a parent.

◆ **Family Services** is a volunteer group within the FSC. Family Services volunteers prepare sponsor packages, loan video and brochures about other bases, and loan small household goods for inbound and outbound personnel. They also maintain the Airmen's Attic supported by donations of clothing and small household goods. A layette program and car seat are available for E-4 and below and those in need.

◆ **Information and Referral** provides links to agencies and resources on and off base. If you need additional help finding a service do not hesitate to call the FSC.

◆ **Married Airmen Sharing Together** is a volunteer organization. MAST accepts donations of furniture and appliances for loan back out to the community.

◆ **Personal Financial Management** provides counseling and workshops on financial needs, debt reduction, budget development, investments, Thrift Saving Plan and car buying.

◆ **Relocation Assistance** provides pre-departure information to help you make better plans before you depart for your

next duty station and help you become familiar with your new community. Air Force Crossroads, the official community Web site of the Air Force, www.afcrossroads.com, and Standard Installation Topics Exchange System, www.dmdc.osd.mil/sites, offer up to date information about bases, schools and housing, as well as a chat room and information for youth and spouses. Relocation offers workshops to include sponsorship training, Smooth Move and Spouse Welcome. Spouses are invited to attend a spouse welcome and get a short briefing on local services plus a tour of Lancaster and Palmdale and a free complimentary lunch. The Antelope Valley Chamber of Commerce sponsors this tour. Childcare may be arranged if requested early. Call to sign up.



Computer resources are available to both military and civilian members at the Family Support Center.

- ◆ **Transition Assistance** offers information and referral, individual assistance, computer and library resources, and a variety of classes and workshops to develop skills to make a smooth transition to the civilian work force.
- ◆ **Volunteer Resource** offers information about opportunities to volunteer and serve. This program serves as the base central coordinating point for volunteerism.
- ◆ **Women Infant and Children Nutrition Clinic** is held weekly at the Family Support Center as a convenience to base residents, excluding weeks with a holiday.

If you need assistance and are not located near a Family Support Center, please call Family Support Center Operations, HQ AFPC/DPPTF, at (800) 581-9437.

Legal Assistance

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
1 S. Rosamond Blvd.
(661) 277-4310 or DSN 527-4310

Legal assistance is offered through the Staff Judge Advocate's office, located in the Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters building. Judge advocates provide advice and assistance to all active duty and retired members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents, as well as Reserve military members.

Notary service and powers of attorney are available Monday through Friday at various hours. Walk-in legal assistance, excluding last wills and testaments, is available every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. Legal assistance appointments are available every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Call 277-4310 and press "0" for the receptionist

to make an appointment.

Assistance is also available in filing claims for loss or damage to personal property during a move. Claims briefings are held weekly. Turn in of claims is by appointment only. If damage to household goods is noted on a Department of Defense Form 1840 at the time of delivery, a claim may be made any time within two years of the delivery date. For any damage discovered after delivery, a DD Form 1840R must be filed within 70 days of delivery.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistants offer tax preparation help during the tax season. They can prepare, review, provide guidance, and electronically file federal and state income taxes free of charge.

Life Skills Center

30 Hospital Road
(661) 277-5291 or DSN 527-5291

The Life Skills Center offers mental health services, family advocacy services and assistance in substance-abuse situations. Individuals, couples counseling and crisis intervention are available as well as substance-abuse evaluations upon voluntary request or by referral of commanders or supervisors.

Family advocacy provides family counseling and counseling to children of domestic violence. Outpatient alcohol treatment is available and inpatient services are available through other military resources. Referral to military inpatient treatment facilities is limited to active duty only. Films and video tapes may be borrowed, and literature is available.

Military Equal Opportunity

307 E. Popson Ave.
(661-) 277-4440 or DSN 527-4440

The Military Equal Opportunity office is located in the C wing of Bldg. 1400. MEO focuses on human relations issues by assisting commanders to improve mission effectiveness by countering the adverse effects of discrimination, sexual harassment and human-relations conflicts.

MEO provides human-relations education to all people initially entering military or civil service and to those attending Airman Leadership School. Equal-opportunity awareness training is available for all Team Edwards members. Human-relations education and briefings are also available by request for individual units and work centers.

MEO keeps commanders informed on matters of discrimination based on race, religion, sex, national origin or color. Discrimination complaints may be filed by military members and their dependents, and a referral service is available for problems outside the scope of MEO's responsibility.

Tax Assistance

The Edwards volunteer Income Tax Assistance program annually provides free assistance in completing and filing federal and California state income tax returns. Active duty and retired military members, reservists on active duty, and military dependents are eligible. The program is coordinated through the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate and involves training local volunteers through the Internal Revenue Service and the California Franchise Tax Board.

HOMETOWN NEWS RELEASE

Public Affairs

1 S. Rosamond Blvd.

(661) 277-3510/4127 or DSN 527-3510/4127

Newcomers are encouraged to complete a Department of Defense Form 2266, Hometown News Release Information, to share the news of their permanent change of station and assignment with friends and family in their hometowns. By simply completing the form on page 65 and sending or delivering it to Public Affairs, a news release will be generated and sent to media outlets for possible publication in your relatives' communities.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS SHIPMENTS

30 N. Wolfe Ave.

(661) 277-0022/2718/4527 or

DSN 527-0022/2718/4527

Arrangements can be made for delivery of household goods and personal effects to new quarters by contacting the inbound section of Household Goods soon after arriving at the base.

HOUSING

Edwards Housing Office

402 S. Forbes Ave.

(661) 277-4506 or DSN 527-4506

Consolidated Dorm Management Office

141 W. Popson Ave.

(661) 277-6783 or DSN 527-6783

Military Family Housing

The Edwards Housing Office welcomes written or telephone inquiries regarding both on- and off-base housing. When writing, state member's rank and number of dependents with their ages and gender and send to 95 CEG/CEH, 402 S. Forbes Ave., Edwards AFB, CA 93524-1800.

Family housing units at Edwards consist of 310 units for officers and 1,360 for enlisted members. The floor plans represent a few of the units available. All units include ranges, refrigerators, dishwashers and garbage disposals. Connections for washer and dryers, both gas and electric, are provided. Maintenance concerns are handled by Chugach Management Services, the family housing maintenance contractor, by calling (661) 258-4461 or (661) 258-4462.

All ranks may be housed, subject to availability, and an advance application should be submitted through the losing

G-area, Officer housing.



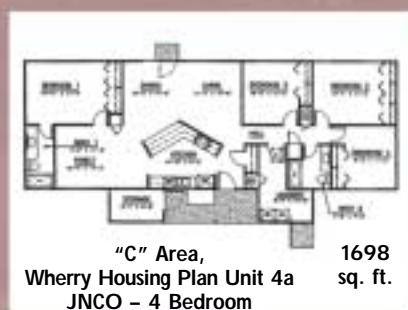
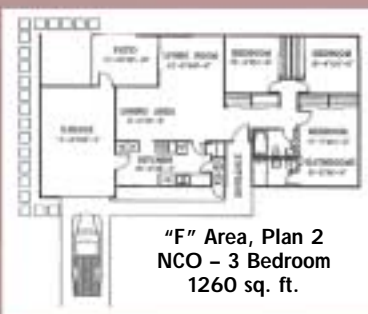
I-area, Edwards' newest family housing area for officers and senior NCOs.



installation's housing or billeting office on a DD Form 1746 as soon as possible after receipt of orders. Quarters are assigned according to grade and family size in accordance with Air Force Instruction 32-6001.

Trash or refuse collection days for base housing are as follows: Monday, area F; Tuesday, areas G and H; Wednesday, areas B and I; Thursday, area C; and Friday, areas A and E and the mobile home park. Recycling is picked up in base housing on regular refuse collection days in the first and third full weeks of each month. There is no pickup on federal holidays; collection is accomplished the following day. More information on trash pickup is available by calling (661) 277-2431 or DSN 527-2431. Recycling information is available at (661) 277-2431 or DSN 527-2431.

Examples of Housing Floor Plans





Outside the 1+1 dormitories



Edward's AFB has a park for privately-owned mobile homes.

Unaccompanied Housing for Officers

Bachelor officer quarters consist of 62 apartment-style units, with priority being given to key personnel.

Unaccompanied Housing for Enlisted Members

Airmen through senior airmen are required to live in base dormitories if unaccompanied. Two and three-story dormitories each house between 32 to 70 members while maintaining unit integrity. Most dormitories are centrally located within walking distance of the Joshua Tree Inn Dining Facility, Oasis Community Center, Aerobic and Aquatics Center and the Fitness and Sports Center. However, the dormitory for medical personnel is located adjacent to the Edwards Clinic and Dental Clinic. Single rooms are assigned based upon

rank and unit. Bathrooms may be shared by roommates or adjacent rooms. Application for dormitory housing should be made after arrival at Edwards. Unaccompanied junior noncommissioned officers are not authorized on-base housing. Unaccompanied senior NCOs are authorized residence in one of 16 apartment-style units, similar to the bachelor officers' quarters, on a space available basis.

Mobile Home Park

Edwards maintains a centrally located 188-space mobile home park for privately-owned mobile homes. Both personnel with families and unaccompanied members are allowed to reside in the park; however, families have first priority. Advance applications may be submitted on DD Form 1746. State whether you require a lot for a single or double-wide mobile home or are looking to purchase an existing mobile home. Mobile home park residents, though residing on base, receive basic allowance for housing. Trash and recycling collection occurs on a routine schedule as outlined in "Military Family Housing" on Page 28.

Off Base

Members assigned to Edwards may choose to reside in one of two metropolitan areas, Lancaster or Palmdale, which are 35 to 45 minutes south of the base, or in other small communities which offer affordable housing closer to the base. Housing personnel are ready to assist customers with personalized listings of rentals and real estate as well as information regarding living in off-base communities.

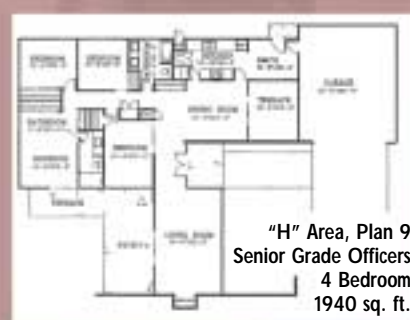
LODGING

High Desert Inn

Bldg. 5602, Manzanita Way

(661) 275-ROOM or DSN 525-ROOM

The Edwards High Desert Inn has various lodging accommodations available to military personnel. The Inn is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For members who have families and who have not been assigned permanent housing, there are limited apartment-type quarters available in the Desert Villa section of the housing area. Each of the 50 units has cooking facilities, a queen-size bed and a twin-size bed in the bedroom, and a couch that converts into a double bed and a chair that converts into a single bed in the living room. Cost is \$34 per night. For unaccompanied members, hotel-like quarters are available at the High Desert Inn. Cost ranges from \$25 to \$37 per night, depending on rank.



MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE

Clinic

30 Hospital Rd., 277-7118

Primary and special preventive care services are provided by the 95th Medical Group.

Current services include: aerospace medicine, ambulance service, dental/oral surgery, family advocacy/psychiatry, family practice, immunizations/allergy, internal medicine, laboratory, mental health, nutritional counseling, optometry, pediatrics, pharmacy, physical therapy, physiological support and radiology. Prevention programs focus on acupuncture, women's health and breast care, public health, and a variety of topics offered through programming at the Health and Wellness Center. Medical support is also provided to the NASA Dryden and Air Force Research Laboratory communities.

The clinic is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon. Appointments for all personnel may be scheduled by calling the central appointments line during normal duty hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Same-day appointments are reserved for active duty members only, including Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members on active orders, and can be made by calling the central appointments line between 6:30 and 7:30 a.m.

After-hours care for non-emergency situations is available when the clinic is closed, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., and is facilitated by an administrative officer of the day. The AOD coordinates required care and urgent inquiries with the on-call physician, the medical officer of the day, to provide prompt patient service.

Paramedic-level ambulance service is available 24 hours a day for life-threatening situations by dialing 911. The paramedics respond to all on-base 911 calls and provide on-scene and in-transit advanced life support. The service also provides emergency transportation to local community hospitals. Paramedic crews maintain Kern County, California and National Paramedic rescue licenses and work under the direction of the Kern County Emergency Medical Services Authority.

Dental Clinic

30 Hospital Rd.

(661) 277-2872 or DSN 527-2872

The Dental Clinic provides comprehensive dental care for active duty members, including a periodic dental examination and cleaning. Family members are not authorized routine dental care at the base clinic, unless emergency treatment is necessary. The TRICARE Family Member Dental Plan has been established to ensure family members have access to affordable dental care through off-base providers. To enroll in the program, visit the Military Personnel Flight customer service section.

Capt. Black, DDS, provides dental care services for active duty members stationed at Edwards AFB.

Flight Surgeon's Office

55 N. Wolfe Ave.

(661) 277-2575 or DSN 527-2575

The Flight Surgeon's Office provides medical care for military members and Department of Defense civilians on flying status, as well as dependents of active duty flyers. The Flight Surgeon's Office also serves other active duty members, including those assigned to various flying squadrons and center staff agencies, as well as their families. The unit conducts specialty physicals for Army, Marine and Reserve service members, as well as occupational physicals for specific career fields, and provides support for NASA operations.

Health Care

◆ **TRICARE Service Center**

30 Hospital Road

(800) 242-6788

◆ **Managed Care Office**

30 Hospital Road

(661) 277-6969/2614 or DSN 527-6969/2614

The TRICARE Service Center manages beneficiary enrollment, provides information on the TRICARE program, and links family members with TRICARE health providers in the local area. Representatives also provide authorization for health services requiring prior approval. Community hospitals participating in TRICARE include Antelope Valley Hospital, located approximately 35 miles from the base at 1600 W. Ave. J in Lancaster, and Lancaster Community Hospital, located approximately 40 miles from the base at 43830 10th Street West in Lancaster.

The TRICARE health care program serves active duty and retired military personnel, their families and their survivors. TRICARE combines civilian and military medical resources. It's designed to improve timely access to health care, maintain the same high quality of care, offer more services and a full range of specialists, host a choice of providers, and control health care costs. Because TRICARE offers options designed to fit a spectrum of lifestyle and health-care needs, the program includes three health care plans: TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra.



MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT

125 Methusa Ave.

(661) 277-2276/3186 or DSN 527-2276-3186

The Military Personnel Flight customer service center is the central information and referral point for personnel matters. The customer service staff provides identification cards for service members, dependents and retirees; maintains personnel records; aids in the completion and updating of emergency data card or Department of Defense Form 93 information; manages applications for the dependent dental plan; and updates the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System, or DEERS. Additionally, the customer service center provides referral to the people and agencies that can assist best in numerous situations.

PETS

All animals must be registered within 10 working days of arrival by presenting a current rabies certificate or scheduling vaccinations at the Edwards Veterinary Treatment Facility. An Edward's rabies and identification tag will be issued upon proper proof of immunization. Owners will confine pets at their residence or exercise them under the owner's immediate control, leash or positive control at all times. No pets will be left unattended in motor vehicles. A limited number of animals are allowed in Desert Villa guest quarters, and dogs and cats are not allowed in the dormitories. Abandoning animals on Edwards is prohibited.

Animal Control

4979 Baker-Nun Road

(661) 277-7138 or DSN 527-7138/7139

The 95th Security Forces Squadron Animal Control Facility works with the base veterinary clinic in registering, immunizing, controlling and impounding lost pets on base. Regulations and fines are outlined in Air Force Flight Test Center Instruction 31-25, Control of Pets. Hours of operation vary through the seasons.

Unwanted pets may be turned in at the Kern County Animal Shelter located at 201 S. Mt. Vernon in Mojave. For more information, call (661) 824-4464.

Boarding

Country Home Pets

1120 Kincheloe Ave.

(661) 258-0888

Although there is no boarding facility on base, Country Home Pets offers off-base boarding facilities and free transport from its on-base pet store to the boarding location for base resident's pets. Boarding for cats is \$9 per day and depending on size, dogs cost from \$7 to \$11 per day. Country Home Pets is open Monday through Saturday.

Pet-sitting

A listing of pet sitters is available through the Family Support Center by calling (661) 277-0723 or DSN 527-0723 or visiting the center at 550 S. Bailey Ave.

NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

→ 40

See Page 40 in the On Base section.

→ 41

NEWS AND INFORMATION

See Pages 41-42 in the On Base section.



Pet Store and Grooming Services

→ 47

See Shopping and Services, Pet Store, Page 47 in the On Base section.

Stables

101 Landfill Rd.

(661) 275-PONY or DSN 525-PONY

The Edwards Riding Stables have 53 stalls for private boarding of up to 74 horses, complete with feed and tack storage rooms. Stables are open daily to those boarding horses. The cost to board a horse begins at \$25 per month with an \$80 deposit. These fees help maintain the stable facilities. Horse owners are responsible for feeding their horses and cleaning their stalls.

Other facilities include a clubhouse with patio and barbecue area, two storage barns, a lighted main riding arena, a jumping arena, trail arena, two large exercise pens, and four-horse and two-horse trailers for stable borders' use.

The stables sponsor horse shows, parades and desert trail rides.

Horses stabled on base at the Edwards Riding Stables must undergo a minimum of five days quarantine and have a current Coggins Test as well as other immunizations. Call the Outdoor Recreation office at (661) 275-RENT or DSN 525-RENT before bringing a horse to the base.

Veterinary Treatment Facility

900 Kincheloe Ave.

(661) 275-PETS or DSN 525-PETS

The Edwards Veterinary Treatment Facility provides services for small animals, including health certificates, vaccinations and medical, surgical and laboratory procedures. Limited services are available for horses. Emergencies involving life or limb-threatening injuries will be seen during normal duty hours, depending on the availability of a veterinarian. Emergencies occurring after duty hours may be referred to a civilian veterinarian. The facility is open Monday through Friday during duty hours with variable evening hours.



PHONE INFORMATION

Base Operator/Information

(661) 277-1110 or DSN 527-1110

The area code for Edwards and the surrounding area, including Rosamond, Lancaster, Palmdale, Mojave, Tehachapi, Bakersfield and Gorman, is 661. Phone prefixes for Edwards include 277 and 275 for work centers, 276 for NASA Dryden and 258 for the housing areas. The Defense Switched Network, or DSN, prefix is 527 for commercial 277 numbers and 525 for commercial 275 numbers. When dialing from base phones established with a 277 or 275 prefix, it is necessary to dial only 7 or 5, respectively, and the last four digits of the destination number.

POSTAL SERVICES

Military Postal Service Center Office

20 W. Popson Ave.

(661) 277-4395 or DSN 527-4395

Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon

U.S. Postal Service Main Post Office

1100 Kincheloe Ave.

(661) 258-7150

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

U.S. Postal Service Postal Station

20 W. Popson Ave.

(661) 277-4315

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 2 to 4:30 p.m.

On-base postal services are handled by the Military Postal Service Center Office, with the exception of delivery to family housing areas, the maintenance of post office boxes, and retail mailing services, all of which are handled by the U.S. Postal Service.

Newcomers can forward mail to the general delivery address managed by the Military PSC Office until they find permanent housing. The address is: General Delivery, PSC Box 1998, Edwards AFB, CA 93524.

Lobby areas for both post office and PSC boxes are open 24 hours a day.

UPS express mail services are available at Outdoor Recreation, located at 1100 Kincheloe Ave. and accessible at (661) 277-3546 or DSN 527-3546.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Muroc Unified School District

17100 Foothill Ave.

North Edwards, Calif.

(760) 769-4821 or (661) 258-4356/4178

The Edwards community boasts two elementary schools, a middle school and a senior high school. On-base public schools fall under the jurisdiction of California's Muroc Unified School District. The 2002-2003 school year begins Aug. 26.

Elementary Schools

Kindergarten through second grade:

◆ **Bailey Elementary**, 1565 Bailey Ave.

(661) 258-6432

Third through fifth grade:

◆ **Branch Elementary**, 1595 Bailey Ave.

(661) 258-4411, Ext. 24 or 400

Sixth through eighth grade:

◆ **Edwards Middle School**, 1577 Payne Ave.

(661) 258-4411, Ext. 500

A child must be 5 years of age on or before Dec. 2 of that school year to be eligible for kindergarten, and he or she must be 6 years old on or before Dec. 2 to be eligible for first grade.

Upon enrollment, parents must provide a birth certificate, a current or transfer report card from the previous school, the student's social security card, a current physical with a doctor's signature (or proof of the physical in the previous school's records) and an immunization record for each child. The law requires proof of polio; diphtheria; tetanus and pertussis, or DTP; and measles immunizations.

Registration is held most weekdays from 1 to 3 p.m. throughout the year.

High School

Ninth through 12th grades:

◆ **Desert High School**

1575 Payne Ave.

(661) 258-4411, Ext. 26

Parents are required to accompany students during registration and must provide shot records (proof of measles, polio and DTP immunizations), a withdrawal form and the last report card from the previous school. Students arriving after the school year has begun should register at the counseling office as soon as possible after arrival. Students who arrive on base prior to the beginning of the school year have an opportunity to plan their schedules. Counseling sessions begin in August.

Honors, advanced placement, college preparatory and laboratory-science classes complement a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities, from drama and yearbook to volleyball and wrestling and Junior ROTC. Spanish is the only foreign language offered. With roughly 400 students, Desert High offers sufficient opportunity for all students to become involved.

Parent Organizations

Parents have the opportunity to support and advise Edwards' schools through the Parent Teacher Association and the Parents' Advisory Council. More information on joining the PTA or PAC is available through the schools.

SONIC BOOMS

See Page 48 in the On Base section.

SPONSOR PROGRAM

Newcomers to Edwards are encouraged to take advantage of the sponsor program within their respective organizations. If you have orders to Edwards and don't yet have a sponsor, call your gaining orderly room or the Military Personnel Flight at (661) 277-2276 or DSN 527-2276.

SPOUSE WELCOME

Family Support Center

550 S. Bailey Ave.

(661) 277-0723 or DSN 527-0723

The Family Support Center offers a spouse welcome forum to bring together spouses new to the base and representatives from the Muroc Unified School District, 95th Services Division, the Base Education Center, TRICARE managed health care, the Officers Wives Club and the Enlisted Wives Club. In conjunction with local chambers of commerce, the FSC's spouse welcome also offers a free tour of downtown Lancaster, Palmdale and Rosamond each month, highlighting shopping and services and providing a free lunch. Free childcare may be available during tours.

TRANSPORTATION

There are three major commercial airports within 100 miles of Edwards. Los Angeles International, located in Inglewood off Interstate 405, one hour and 45 minutes south of Edwards, is one of the world's busiest airports and traffic congestion in the vicinity is often a factor to consider. Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport, located in Burbank, is an hour-and-a-half straight shot south from the base along State Highway 14 and Interstate 5. Ontario International Airport, located one hour and 30 minutes south in San Bernardino County off Interstate 15, is a less-congested means of connecting to air travel. Newcomers arriving by air, rail or bus should ask for assistance from their sponsor. Late-night arrival by commercial means is not advised. A commercial shuttle is available from LAX to Lancaster, approximately 80 miles, at the current rate of \$38 one way. However, there is no shuttle to Edwards from Lancaster. Reservations may be made by calling (661) 945-2529.

The 95th Transportation Squadron provides an on-base taxi service for official government business Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call (661) 277-2620 or DSN 527-2620.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND SMOG TEST

Pass and Registration

105 E. Yeager Blvd.

(661) 277-7403 or DSN 527-7403

Auto Skills Center

200 Methusa Ave.

(661) 277-4275/2836 or DSN 527-4275/2836

Vehicle registration decals are obtained from the 95th Security Forces Squadron, Pass and Registration Section. Vehicles, including motor scooters and motorbikes, must be registered on the installation within 10 working days of arrival.

To register a vehicle on base, the owner must present vehicle registration, a valid driver's license and military or civilian I.D. card, as well as proof of current insurance in accordance with Air Force Instruction 31-204, paragraph 3.2, and Air Force Flight Test Center Instruction 31.28, paragraph 2.6. If the insurance is not issued under the name of the registering individual, the actual policy is required to verify policy coverage of the registering individual.

Vehicles registered outside the state of California must have proof of a smog test before registering, as required by the Federal Clean Air Act of 1990, Section 118d. Smog tests may be accomplished at the Auto Skills Center; appointments are necessary. Cost is \$25.

WEATHER

Sun and wind, not heat, are the primary year-round characteristics of Edwards' weather. Skies above Edwards are sunny 350 days per year. Winds usually pick up in the afternoon from the west and can become strong at times, particularly in the spring. Edwards' clear skies, desert climate and 2,300-foot elevation result in a 30-degree difference between daytime and nighttime temperatures. Cool evening temperatures and low humidity make the hot summer months surprisingly comfortable. Precipitation is rare between April and October and only accumulates five inches per year. Snow flurries occasionally fall, but rarely stick to the ground. The chart below shows average temperatures and precipitation.

The predictably sunny weather at Edwards AFB provides optimum conditions for test flying throughout the year.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR EDWARDS AFB AREA

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Average High	56	57	72	73	94	97	99	103	97	85	68	57
Average Low	29	33	42	42	56	63	65	65	57	49	39	29
Precip. (in.)	1.86	2.29	0.86	0.63	0.0	0.0	0.36	0.0	0.15	0.31	0.85	0.29

ON BASE

FEBRUARY

Annual Awards Banquet, supported by a myriad of base organizations and community sponsors, recognizes the accomplishments of nominees for airman, noncommissioned officer, first sergeant and company-grade officer of the year. The event is traditionally held at the Essex House in Lancaster and features a distinguished guest speaker.

MAY

Military Sports Day, sponsored by the 95th Services Division, aims to enhance morale and to provide all of Team Edwards an opportunity to engage in sports and other physical activities. Squadrons compete in a number of events, including softball, volleyball, horseshoes, and track and field events. Contact your unit Sports Representative for more information.

JULY

Summer Bash, sponsored by the 95th Services Division, is an Air Force Materiel Command program celebrated at Edwards every July 4 at Wings field near Arnold Park. Activities include entertainment, free carnival rides, water slides, family games, bouncy castles, sports competitions and a fireworks display to celebrate Independence Day.

SEPTEMBER

Fall Festival, presented by the 95th Services Division, celebrates the autumn holidays with costumes, dance contests, live entertainment, games and free carnival rides. This festival is held in the Base Exchange side parking lot, and there is no admission fee.

Pancho Barnes Party, sponsored by the Company Grade Officer's Council, honors the memory of Pancho Barnes, record-setting aviator and local legend. The party is held at the ruins of her ranch, the "Happy Bottom Riding Club"—a desolate location made lively by efforts to bring barbecue and

live music together under a desert night sky. The event benefits the Flight Test Historical Foundation, which strives to preserve the history of flight test at Edwards. Traditionally, the party is scheduled for the second Saturday in September. However, the 2002 party will be September 21.

OCTOBER

Open House and Air Show, Oct. 26, 2002, is a basewide effort, to include NASA Dryden and other base associates, to present to the general public the men, women, technology and aircraft systems that comprise the aerospace frontier at Edwards. The Air Force Flight Test Center demonstrates its mission through static and aerial displays of nearly every aircraft in the Air Force inventory.

NOVEMBER

412 Test Wing Turkey Day. Held the Friday before Thanksgiving for Test Wing personnel to kickoff the holiday season.

DECEMBER

Edwards' base-wide holiday party, presented annually by the 95th Services Division and held at the Oasis Community Center, invites all of the Edwards community to celebrate the holiday season with entertainment, free food and beverages, pictures with Santa, crafts, and coloring contests.



The Edwards AFB Open House and Air Show

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tops in Blue, the Air Force's traveling variety show, dazzles the Edwards community with lively dance, song and humor with tones of nostalgia, patriotism and service.

Motion Picture Support

Edwards' proximity to the filmmakers and studios of Hollywood, make it a frequent choice of directors and production agencies for on-scene motion picture and music video filming. Edwards supports one or two major motion-picture events each year, which often result in free screenings for the base population.

Space Shuttle Landings

Edwards continues to be an alternate, emergency-landing site for space shuttle flights and, with its large dry lakebed, will be a contingency site on all orbital missions during the entire life of the space program. The decision to land at Edwards is made 90 minutes prior to estimated landing time.



Tops in Blue performers
USAF Photo by TSgt Kevin J. Gruenwald



Arnold Schwarzenegger visits Edwards for a photo shoot with Talk magazine.
USAF photo by SSgt Stacey McCausland, AFFTC Public Affairs



The June landing of the Space Shuttle Endeavor at Edwards AFB.
2002 NASA Photo



Air Force Flight Test Center Museum

ATTRACTIONS

Air Force Flight Test Center Museum

405 S. Rosamond Blvd.
(661) 277-8050

The museum features exhibits, displays and videos depicting the history of Edwards and the Air Force Flight Test Center, including aircraft static displays, models, biographies and aviation paraphernalia. The museum also has a gift shop with T-shirts, aviation books and souvenirs. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Flight Line Tour

Public Affairs Office

1 S. Rosamond Blvd., (661) 277-3517

The normal base tour schedule and policies were changed after Sept. 11, 2001. When security conditions permit, the Public Affairs Office will resume tours of the flight line for the general public. A public announcement will be made when the program resumes. Normally, reservations should be made at least three weeks in advance. Group tours of the base and flight line will be arranged by calling for reservations at least a month in advance. Tours include an introductory presentation and orientation video. Tours begin at the Air Force Flight Test Center Museum.

NASA Dryden Tour

Visitor's Center

Lilly Drive, Bldg. 4825

(661) 276-3460/3446

NASA Dryden offers a 90-minute walking tour of its facilities, resources and aircraft. Call for further information and tour availability.

CHAPEL COMMUNITY AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Chapel 1: 15 N. Popson Ave.,
(661) 277-2110

Chapel 2: 10 Park Dr.
(661) 277-2110

There are two base chapels: Chapel 1, located on the main base; and Chapel 2, located in the family housing area. The chapel staff maintains normal duty hours at Chapel 2; however, a duty chaplain is available on a 24-hour basis by calling the command post at (661) 277-3040. The chapel staff and volunteers host groups of men, women, youth and children in Bible study, religious initiation, instruction, social ministry, confirmation and service, as well as personal growth, parenting guidance and marriage enrichment. Protestant and Roman Catholic worship services are held regularly at both chapels. Jewish and Eastern Orthodox services are also held periodically.

CHILDCARE

Free Childcare for Newcomers

A maximum of 20 hours of free childcare, per child, is available to parents of all ranks who are making a permanent change of station move to or from Edwards through the Air Force Aid Society. The childcare is available within 60 days of arrival or departure and is provided by Family Child Care Program providers. Parents may apply for childcare by bringing a copy of their orders and a valid ID to the Family Support Center at 550 S. Bailey Ave. Call the Center at (661) 277-0723 or DSN 527-0723. Families who do not yet have orders should visit the Center to arrange confirmation of their PCS status.

DINING

◆ **Anthony's Pizza**

Base Exchange Food Court
240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-4034

Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Offers a variety of pizzas and pasta meals.

◆ **Base Operations Snack Bar**

235 S. Flightline Rd.
(661) 258-5696

Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Offers grill and sandwich items for breakfast and lunch.

◆ **Baskin Robbins**

Base Exchange Food Court
240 Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-1452

Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Offers ice cream desserts and special-occasion ice cream cakes.

◆ **Burger King**

240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-5987

Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Offers breakfast, lunch and dinner fast-food items.

◆ **Cactus Café**

Corner of Wolfe Avenue & Fitzgerald Boulevard
(661) 275-CAFE

Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Offers a breakfast menu and daily lunch specials, grill items, and sandwiches.

◆ **Club Muroc**

Corner of Wolfe Avenue & Fitzgerald Boulevard
(661) 275-CLUB

Lunch: Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner: Monday through Thursday, 5:30 to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Renovated in early 2000, Club Muroc is a consolidated club with an officers' lounge and an enlisted lounge, Pancho's and Fogleman's respectively, a dining room, main ballroom and poolside lanais. Banquet and catering

services are available and reservations can be made by calling or visiting the catering office. Social hour is offered at the club on Wednesday and Friday evenings. Membership information is available. A check-cashing service is also available to club members Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

facility provides full food service to all military personnel and authorized guests as determined by the installation commander. Enlisted personnel and officers receiving Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) will be assessed the proportional surcharge, based on the subtotal of entrees selected. Low calorie/healthy choice entrees are offered during all meal periods.

Preferred Plus! Program

Preferred Plus! Members receive a 10 percent discount on various services, programs and goods—from lunch at Club Muroc to framing at the Skills Development Center. Special Preferred Plus! events are also scheduled occasionally and are free to members. If you were a club member at your previous base, you'll need to transfer your membership to the Edwards program by calling (661) 275-7587, or stop by at the 95th Services Division offices at 36 N. Wolfe Ave. Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



◆ **Joshua Tree Inn Dining Facility**

130 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 275-3663

Breakfast: Monday through Friday, 5:30 to 7:45 a.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 6 to 9 a.m.

Lunch: Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner: Monday through Friday, 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 4 to 7 p.m.

Midnight meal: Monday through Sunday, 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Inflight Kitchen: 24 hours daily (661) 275-3776.

Family Nights: Each Wednesday and Sunday, from 4 to 7 p.m., family members of enlisted personnel in the pay grade of E-1 through E-4 are exempt from paying the proportional surcharge.

The Joshua Tree Inn enlisted dining

◆ **Mary's Place**

300 E. Yeager Blvd.
(661) 258-5215

Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Offers a breakfast menu and daily lunch specials, grill items and sandwiches.

◆ **NASA Dryden Cafeteria**

Lilly Drive, Bldg. 4825
(661) 276-3270

Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Offers breakfast and lunch menus, hot entrees, grill items and sandwiches. Located adjacent to the NASA Dryden Visitor's Center.

◆ **Oasis Pizza & Deli**

Oasis Community Center
205 W. Popson Ave.,
(661) 277-5054

Lunch: Monday through

Friday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Dinner: Monday through Thursday, 4 to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 4 to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 4 to 8 p.m.

Offers deli-style sandwiches, subs, rotisserie chicken, BBQ ribs and chicken strips

◆ **Pizza Hut**

1100 Kincheloe Ave.
(661) 258-4907

Opens at 10:30 a.m. and closes at 10 p.m. seven days a week.

◆ **Popeye's**

Base Exchange Food Court
240 Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-1078, Ext. 227

Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Offers fast-food chicken meals with an assortment of side dishes.

◆ **Robin Hood Sandwich Shoppe and Deli**

Base Exchange Food Court
240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-1078

Monday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Offers a variety of submarine sandwiches and salads.

◆ **Rocket Room**

Air Force Research Lab
2 Pollux Dr.
(661) 275-5589

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Offers breakfast and lunch menus, hot entrees, grill items and sandwiches.

◆ **Sandbagger Grill**

111 Crest Dr.
(661) 275-SAND

Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, 6:30 to 3 p.m. Offers breakfast and lunch menus, hot entrees, grill items, sandwiches and salads. Located at the Muroc Lake Golf Course.

◆ **South Base Snack Bar**

Birk Flight Test Facility
South Base, (661) 275-0213

Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Offers a breakfast menu and daily lunch specials, grill items and sandwiches.

◆ **Strikezone Snack Bar**

High Desert Lanes Bowling Center
205 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 275-ZONE

Sunday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 11 p.m. Offers a breakfast menu and daily lunch specials, grill items and sandwiches.

◆ **Taco Bell Express**

Base Exchange Food Court
240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258- 6739

Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Offers Mexican fast-food items.

◆ **Thai Garden**

240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-0186

Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 a.m. Offers a variety of Thai food.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Human Resource Development Center

125 Methusa Ave.
(661) 277-6071

The Human Resource Development Center is the focal point for all education and training at Edwards for both military and civilian members. The HRD staff works with managers, supervisors, organizational training managers and individuals to optimize training and education opportunities. In addition, HRD provides program oversight for the Civilian Wellness Program and the Civilian Employee Assistance Program.

Education Office

125 Methusa Rd.
(661) 277-2713

The Education Office, a component of Human Resource Development, provides a variety of education programs offering a associate through master's degrees, education guidance counseling services, military tuition assistance, and the civilian Academic Degree and Certificate Training program.

◆ **Colleges:** Eight colleges have offices on base and offer classes and degree programs to the Edwards community. Graduate institutions include California State University Fresno, California State University Northridge, and Webster University. Bachelor's level institutions include Chapman University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Southern Illinois University, and the University of Phoenix. Cerro Coso Community College offers associate degrees and courses that transfer to both California State University and the University of California. Disciplines offered include business administration, social science, history, applied math, computer science, psychology, criminal justice, computer information systems, professional aeronautics, aeronautical science, industrial technology, management, mechanical and electrical engineering, and human resource management. Call the Education Office at 277-2713 for a brochure with extended information on schools and degrees.

◆ **Professional Military Education:** Education Office staff arrange for military members and eligible civil service employees to attend the Air and Space Basic Course, Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College and Air War College. Recruiting for on base seminars in the latter two schools is conducted annually starting in May. In addition, the office can assist with attendance at the NCO Academy and Senior NCO Academy as well.

Training Office:

125 Methusa Ave.
(661) 277-6073

The Training Office, also a component of Human Resource Development, provides services to enable Edwards military and civilian members to obtain needed engineering, scientific, technical, logistics, maintenance, managerial, supervisory, and administrative training. Training Office staff assist management in assessing needs, advocate for and assist in the creation of Individual Development Plans, determine optimum delivery methods, and conduct and/or administer training classes. Support functions include resource management, classroom scheduling, and administering the Education and Training Management System.

→ 24 EMERGENCY SERVICES

See page 24, Newcomers section.

→ 25 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

See page 25, Newcomers section.

→ 26 HELPING RESOURCES

See pages 26-27, Newcomers section.

LIBRARY AND CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Main Library

5 W. Yeager Blvd., Bldg. 2665

(661) 275-2665

Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Children's Library

1100 Kincheloe Ave., Bldg. 7210

(661) 275-7323

Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday 10-6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The base library stocks an assortment of learning materials, including books, current periodicals, videotapes, cassettes and CD ROMs, which aid in the search for periodicals and newspapers. Computers are available to produce and support literature searches, and computers, typewriters and a copy machine are accessible to the public for personal use at the main library. Additionally, Internet access is provided for personal use. The library also offers inter-library loan services for books not available locally.



The Children's Library has books, electronic games and older periodicals available for checkout. Newer games are available, but may not be checked out of the library. The library has a children's story hour at 3 p.m. on Wednesday for older elementary students and a story hour at 10 a.m., Friday, for preschool age children. The Children's Library also has a summer reading program that runs from mid-June to late July for children of most ages. Call the library for exact times, dates and locations.

→ 29 LODGING

See page 29, Newcomers section.

→ 31 MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT

See page 31, Newcomers section.

NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Civil Engineer Readiness Division

(661) 277-4433

Earthquakes are the primary type of natural disaster most likely to occur at Edwards. Despite being located between the first- and third-largest fault lines in California, the San Andreas and the Garlock respectively, the base has no historical record of ever sustaining damage due to an earthquake. Occasionally during the spring's rainy season, the base may be subject to flash flooding. Both earthquakes and flash flooding give little or no warning and can compromise the well being of the community, the ability to operate, and even the structural integrity of homes and buildings. Strong winds are also common and have been known to cause damage locally.

The Edwards AFB Readiness Division suggests the following steps be taken to prepare for a major earthquake.

Develop a Family Plan

- Decide where your family can reunite if separated.
- Be familiar with the safe spots in each room so that you can seek protection under sturdy tables and desks or against walls. Avoid danger spots – such as near windows, mirrors, hanging objects and tall, unsecured furniture.
- Know where the gas, water and electricity turnoff sites are and how to shut them off.
- Secure water heaters and appliances.
- Maintain a three-day emergency food and water supply. Create a survival kit, including a flashlight, portable battery-operated radio, extra batteries, prescription medicine, first-aid supplies, clothing and sanitation needs. A small kit should also be placed in each vehicle.
- Keep current on first aid and CPR skills.

After the Earthquake

- Check yourself and those around you for injuries. Don't move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger.
- Check utility leaks and broken electrical and sewage lines. Survey your house for cracks and signs of damage.
- Check water and food supplies. Remember emergency water can be found in water heaters, melted ice cubes, the toilet tank and canned vegetables.
- Use a portable radio for instructions and news reports.
- Do not drive your car unless necessary. Roads need to be clear for emergency vehicles.

The secret to success in surviving a natural disaster is the ability to plan. The Base Readiness Division conducts base earthquake briefings once a year; watch for times and locations in the base newspaper.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Information

- ◆ **Straight Talk Center and Rumor Control**, available by calling (661) 277-3510, are managed by the Office of Public Affairs and provide the facts concerning rumors or incidents happening on base and within the Air Force.
- ◆ **Family Services**, located inside the Family Support Center at 550 S. Bailey Ave., offers a variety of information and literature concerning family matters, what to expect when moving to another base, transition assistance, and the job search upon separating from the service.
- ◆ **Oasis Community Center**, located at 205 Popson Ave., provides a full spectrum of brochures highlighting activities and attractions off base.
- ◆ **Marquees**, or electronic bulletin boards, are operated by the 95th Services Marketing Division and are located at the North, South and West gates, as well as on Fitzgerald Boulevard and Forbes Avenue. The five marquees collectively provide community announcements and information in routine or emergency situations. For details on how to submit information for posting on base marquees, call (661) 277-3802.

Media Referral

Public Affairs Office
1 S. Rosamond Blvd.
(661) 277-4127

Members of the media should be immediately referred to Public Affairs without comment in order to ensure media receive prompt assistance and that the base speaks with one voice.

Print

- ◆ **Air Force Flight Test Center Update**, a product of the Office of Public Affairs, 1 S. Rosamond Blvd., is a bi-monthly publication highlighting advances in flight test and aerospace programs as they progress and are achieved here. The Update serves a mission-minded, trade readership.
- ◆ **Desert Wings**, a product of the Public Affairs Office, serves as the Edwards community newspaper and is delivered throughout main base and the housing areas every Friday morning at no charge. Community members may suggest news leads and submit stories and items of interest through their unit public affairs representative, by contacting the Desert Wings staff via e-mail at afftc.pa.desertwings@edwards.af.mil, or by calling (661) 277-2345. The deadline for all submissions to the Desert wings is 4:30 p.m. the Friday before the desired publication date.
- ◆ **Dryden X-Press**, a product of NASA Dryden Flight Research Center, is a regular publication that serves to inform employees, media, the general public and retirees about the people and projects of Dryden.
- ◆ **Report to Stakeholders**, a product of Edwards Environmental Management, is a monthly publication designed to inform the general public of environmental clean-up actions being taken on base.

Radio

Reception varies widely on base and in the surrounding communities. These are some of the stations that can be heard on base.

FM

89.3	KPCC	Pasadena <i>National Public Radio</i>
93.5	KLKX	Palmdale <i>Classic Rock</i>
93.9	KZLA	Los Angeles <i>Country</i>
94.7	KTWV	Los Angeles <i>Smooth Jazz</i>
95.5	KLOS	Los Angeles <i>Rock</i>
97.7	KIIS	Lancaster <i>Contemporary hits</i>
98.7	KYSR	Los Angeles <i>Rock/Top40</i>
99.1	KGGI	San Bernardino <i>Urban Contemporary</i>
100.3	KKBT	Los Angeles <i>R & B/Hip-Hop</i>
103.1	KTPI	Palmdale <i>Country</i>
104.3	KBIG	Los Angeles <i>Adult Contemporary</i>
105.5	KOSS	Lancaster <i>Lite Rock</i>
106.3	KGMX	Palmdale <i>Adult Contemporary</i>

AM

610	KAVL	Lancaster <i>Sports</i>
640	KFI	Los Angeles <i>Talk radio</i>
710	KDIS	Los Angeles <i>Children's (Disney)</i>
960	KIXW	Apple Valley <i>Country</i>
980	FFWB	Los Angeles <i>News</i>
1150	KXTA	Los Angeles <i>Sports</i>
1340	KAVC	Lancaster <i>Talk</i>
1380	KHJJ	Palmdale <i>Talk radio</i>
1540	KMPC	Los Angeles <i>Sports</i>

Television

Adelphia Cable Palmdale, Calif. (661) 265-6637

Broadcast reception is very poor, but cable outlets offer all major Los Angeles television broadcast channels as well as major cable channels. The cable system serving the base is owned and operated by Adelphia Cable, located in Palmdale, and offers pay TV programming, including HBO, Cinemax, The Disney Channel and Showtime. Pay-per-view programming is also available. Adelphia newscasts on channel 3 air at 5, 7, 9 and 10:30 p.m. and are the only newscasts devoted solely to the Antelope Valley audience. A "Commander's Access Channel," Channel 6, is included in the cable TV basic package for base residents and provides 24-hour mission-related notices, community and duty briefs, as well as video programming including Air Force TV News and local historical videos. Instructional information is also provided in emergency situations. While informational slides are showing, Channel 6 also broadcasts Edwards Headline News and Air Force Radio News.



A KC-135R Stratotanker refuels an F-22 Raptor. The F-22's integrated avionics system gives it a first-look, first-shot, first-kill capability greatly enhancing the U.S. Air Force's air dominance capabilities. Cutting-edge technological engineering, like that developed for the F-22, continues to keep Edwards AFB at the forefront of aerospace innovation.

USAF Photo by Kevin Robertson

World Wide Web

- ◆ **Edwards Air Force Base public Website** is accessible to the general public via the Internet at www.edwards.af.mil.
- ◆ **Centernet** is an intranet accessible to only ".mil" and ".gov" users at centernet.edwards.af.mil.
- ◆ **Base Bulletin**, a product of the Information Technology Directorate, is accessible via Centernet and features daily Air Force Flight Test Center notices, duty and community briefs, as well as classifieds. The bulletin has limited availability in print.

Adelphia Cable Basic Cable Channel Line-up

02	CBS	KCBS Los Angeles
03	HAL/AV3	Hallmark Channel/Local Programming
04	NBC	KNBC Los Angeles
05	WB	KTLA Los Angeles
06	CAC	Commander's Access Channel
07	ABC	KABC Los Angeles
08	PBS	KCET Los Angeles
09	IND	KCAL Los Angeles
10	TWC	The Weather Channel/TV Guide
11	FOX	KTTV Los Angeles
12	AVBN	AV Buyers Network/Leased Access
13	UPN	KCOP Los Angeles
14	KHIZ	KHIZ Barstow
15	HSN	Home Shopping Network
16	PIN	PIN/KPAL
17	PBS	KLCS Los Angeles
18	IND	KSCI Long Beach
19	TBN	KTBN Santa Ana
20	TELE	KVEA Corona
21	UNIV	KMEX Los Angeles
22	IND	KWHY Los Angeles
23	IND	KJLA Los Angeles
24	IND	KRCA Riverside
25	KFTR	TELEFUTURA Ontario
26	PAXNET	KPXN San Bernardino
27	TBS	Turner Broadcasting System
28	HBO	HBO (Premium Channel)
29	HBOP	HBO Plus (Premium Channel)
30	HBOSG	HBO Signature (Premium Channel)
32	CRT	Court TV
33	IND	KXLA Los Angeles
34	IND	KAZA Los Angeles
35	GAC	Great American Country
36	CSPAN	House of Representatives
37	GA	Adelphia Government Access
38	IND	KDOC Los Angeles
55	AMC	American Movie Classics

The following are Expanded Basic Channels

39	TLCW	The Learning Channel
40	THCW	The History Channel
41	CNN	Cable News Network
42	FNC	Fox News Channel
43	DISC	Discovery
44	NGEO	National Geographic Channel
45	CNBC	Consumer/Business News
46	MSNBC	All News Network
47	ESPN2	24 Hour Sports
48	ESPN	24 Hour Sports
49	FSN	Fox Sport Net
50	FSN2	Fox Sport Net 2
51	TNN	The National Network
52	SCI-FI	Sci-Fi Channel
53	USAW	USA Network
54	TNT	Turner Network Television
56	HGTV	Home & Garden Television
57	A&E	Arts & Entertainment
58	LIFE	Lifetime Television
59	FOOD	Food Network
60	ANML	Animal Planet
61	ABCFAM	ABC Family Channel
62	DIS	Disney Channel
63	NICK	Nickelodeon
64	TOON	The Cartoon Network
65	MTV	Music Television
66	BET	Black Entertainment Television
67	VH1	Video Hits One
68	COM	Comedy Central
69	E!	Entertainment Television
70	GALA	Galavision
96	TRAVL	The Travel Channel
99	FX	FX Network

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PETS

See page 31, Newcomers section.

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PHONE INFORMATION

See page 32, Newcomers section.

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POSTAL SERVICES

See page 32, Newcomers section.

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS

See page 32, Newcomers section.

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

Current points of contact for the following organizations may be obtained by calling (661) 277-3433.

◆ **Air Force Association** is an independent, nonprofit, civilian organization primarily concerned with public understanding and acceptance of the pivotal role played by a well-manned, well-equipped and well-trained Air Force.

◆ **Air Force Sergeants Association** reaches out to the base and surrounding communities to help those in need and to raise awareness of the sacrifices and concerns of those who wear or have worn the stripes of the enlisted corps.

◆ **American Society of Military Comptrollers** is a nonprofit, educational and professional organization for persons, including both military and civilian, involved in the overall field of military comptrollership, which encompasses the professions of Department of Defense financial management.

◆ **Blacks in Government** provides a knowledgeable employee support group for African-American civil servants and strives to identify and resolve problems impacting the African-American segment of the Edwards work force.

◆ **Blue Eagles Honor Guard and Drill Team**, an award-winning, all-volunteer unit, represents the Air Force Flight Test Center in the finest tradition of the Air Force through discipline, appearance and competence by participating in parades and other base and community events throughout Southern California.

◆ **Civil Air Patrol** is a national aviation-oriented, volunteer organization primarily focused on mission elements to promote aerospace education, facilitate cadet programs, and provide emergency services.

◆ **Company Grade Officer's Council** promotes professional development, encourages base and local community service, and establishes an environment to enhance social camaraderie among company grade officers.

◆ **Desert Wheels Motorcycle Club** promotes the sport of motocross and desert riding in a safe manner; provides information, materials and guidance on competitive motorcycle events and tours; and fosters social and recreational discourse for motocross and desert-riding enthusiasts. Those who ride off-road at Edwards must do so only in designated areas and only after first completing desert tortoise training. Those who wish to ride off-road should call Environmental Management at 277-1401 to arrange for training.

◆ **Edwards Chiefs Group** promotes morale, welfare, esprit-de-corps, productivity and increased mission effectiveness through the experience, guidance and network of Edwards' chiefs.

◆ **Edwards First Sergeants Association** promotes communication, cooperation and education through the mutual exchange of ideas and recommendations applicable to all Edwards first sergeants.

◆ **Edwards Officers' Wives' and Enlisted Wives' Clubs** foster a high degree of morale among their members and promote the ideals of the Air Force through welfare, charitable, social, educational and recreational activities.

◆ **Edwards Top Three Association** promotes unity and esprit-de-corps among the top three noncommissioned officer grades, fosters camaraderie and communication, and assists in the development of professional leadership and management abilities.

◆ **Federal Managers Association** is the foremost federal employee organization representing the interests of executives, managers and supervisors in the federal government.

◆ **Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 1000** promotes and encourages the sport and hobby of recreational aviation.

◆ **Flight Test Historical Foundation** fosters, perpetuates and preserves the history of flight test and aerospace development by supporting the Air Force Flight Test Center Museum.

◆ **High Desert Hispanic Association** supports the morale of all Hispanic members of Team Edwards and strives for higher education for all Hispanic people.

◆ **Korean Wives Club** unites Korean women for the purpose of friendship and cultural development at Edwards.

◆ **Muroc Model Masters** fosters the advancement of radio control and control line model aviation, offers assistance and guidance to those desiring to further their knowledge of model aircraft operation, and promotes model aviation at Edwards.

◆ **People of God** promotes spiritual and Christian growth and fellowship throughout the Edwards chapel and base community.

◆ **Society of Military Engineers** promotes the military engineer's efficiency and effectiveness in serving the U.S. Defense Department.

◆ **Sound Barrier Toastmasters Club** aids members in learning many techniques of public and impromptu speaking and speech delivery, and also the evaluation and judging of speech.

Fun in the Sun

RECREATION

◆ Aero Club

South Base, Bldg. 320

(661) 275-AERO

The Aero Club offers flight and ground instruction toward earning a private pilot's license, as well as aircraft rental to all members. The club has virtually exclusive use of the South Base runway for easy access to clear blue California skies. Since all club aircraft are registered with the Air Force, they are authorized to land at nearly all U.S. military bases and can be used for temporary duty travel. The club participates in fly-ins, proficiency competitions and a variety of other aviation-related activities.

◆ Skills Development Center Automotive

200 Methusa Rd.

(661) 275-AUTO

The Auto Hobby Shop offers equipment, tools, supplies and working space for self-help maintenance and repair to automobiles and other vehicles. More than 10 stalls are available for major and minor auto repairs well as all the standard equipment necessary for auto repair work.

Long pants are required in the work area and children are not permitted access for safety reasons. Services offered at the center include brake drum and rotor turning, computerized wheel balancing and air conditioning maintenance. California smog testing and repair is also available.

◆ Fam Camp

Coliseum Drive and Lathrop Street

(661) 275-CAMP

Fam Camp features 25 full hook-up slots for recreational vehicles, as well as shower and restroom facilities. Thirty-six over-flow slots without hook-ups are also available.

Payments for use of the camp are made at Fam Camp or Outdoor Recreation.

◆ High Desert Lanes Bowling Center

205 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.

(661) 275-BOWL

High Desert Lanes Bowling Center is a 20-lane facility equipped with AMF 82-90 pin spotters and Brunswick AS 80 automatic scoring. Bowling programs, such as glow bowling (glow in the dark bowling) and Colorama, are available for all ages, in addition to daily league competition and open bowling. Arrangements may also be made to host parties at the center. The Strikezone Snack Bar (275-ZONE) provides quick and convenient dining, and the pro shop offers balls, shoes and ball measuring and drilling, as well as special orders.

◆ Information, Tickets & Travel

1100 Kincheloe Ave.

(661) 275-TRIP

Information, Tickets & Travel provides discounted tickets for cultural attractions in addition to arranging dozens of tours each year in and around southern California. Tickets for popular Los Angeles and San Diego area attractions include Disneyland, Universal Studios, Knott's Berry Farm, Sea World and Six Flags Magic Mountain. Park guides are also available as well as staff assistance in planning itineraries for exploring scenic and historic sites abundant in the Antelope Valley. Information, Tickets & Travel is also a full service Travel Agency, offering airline tickets, hotels, cruise and vacation packages and group cruises and tours, at a discount, throughout the year.



Muroc Lake Golf Course

◆ Muroc Lake Golf Course

111 Crest Dr.

(661) 274-PUTT

Edwards Muroc Lake Golf Course offers a championship 185-acre, 18-hole, par-72 golf course. The facility includes a pro shop with the latest equipment, a driving range, and chipping, pitching and putting practice greens. Base intramural league matches, holiday and monthly tournaments, and an active men's golf association are available for interested players. The club is a member of the Southern California Golf Association, which provides handicapping service. A local handicap service is also available. The on-site Sandbagger Grill provides short-order breakfast and lunch.

◆ **N&N Travel**
20 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 277-3160

N&N Travel provides arrangements for official travel only. Members traveling on official orders, in TDY or PCS status, can arrange air, car and hotel reservations.

◆ **Oasis Aquatic Center**
207 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 275-SWIM

The Oasis pool, located in the Oasis Aerobic and Aquatic Center, is an indoor Olympic-sized pool open throughout the year to all Edwards personnel and their families, and is staffed by qualified lifeguards at all times. Admission is \$1 per person per visit. Free lap swimming is available to active duty members only. The center offers Red Cross life-guarding classes, water-safety instruction, swimming lessons for all levels, CPR and first aid, as well as water aerobics classes.

The base also has two outdoor pools open seasonally: the Club Muroc pool, located at 275 Manzanita Way, open Memorial Day through Labor Day; and the Youth Center pool, located at 24 Lathrop Dr., open Memorial Day through Labor Day. Summer passes are \$100 for families of up to four members.

◆ **Oasis Community Center**
205 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 275-CNTR

The Oasis Community Center features a variety of leisure-time activities and programs for the base community. The facility offers a game room with pool and ping-pong tables, foosball and video games; lounge areas and separate conference rooms that have the latest audio and video capabilities and computer access; and Stripes Lounge has a state-of-the-art music and video entertainment system. The center sponsors tournaments, talent shows and educational classes.

◆ **Outdoor Recreation**
1100 Kincheloe
(661) 275-CAMP

Outdoor Recreation offers a variety of information and outings for those looking for excitement outdoors.

Programming includes anything from ocean to mountain, from sea kayaking and white water rafting, to rock climbing and snow skiing. Custom trips such as backwoods nature hikes are also available.

◆ **Parks**

- **Arnold Park**, located at the end of Coliseum Drive, features playground equipment, covered picnic areas, a stage and restrooms. The park often hosts community gatherings in the spring and summer months and is available for rent through Outdoor Recreation.
- **Branch Memorial Park**, located near South Base off Lancaster Boulevard, also features picnic areas as well as Branch Pond. Branch Pond is open for fishing to individuals with valid base fishing licenses. The park is available for rental through Outdoor Recreation.

➔ **31 Riding Stables**

See "Stables" on page 31, Newcomers section.

◆ **Rod & Gun Activity**
210 Adams Way
(661) 275-TRAP

The Rod & Gun Activity, located adjacent to the small arms range south of Rosamond Boulevard, offers outdoor sporting fun including archery, trap, skeet, rifle, pistol, and paintball. Competitive shooting and social events are held regularly and the facility can be reserved for group functions such as paintball tournaments. Base hunting and fishing licenses can be purchased year round.



Youth Center pool

◆ **Skills Development Center**
Crafts

200 Methusa Rd.
(661) 275-ARTS

The Skills Development Center offers a wide variety of programs, assistance and equipment in ceramics, framing, woodworking, and other arts, crafts and hobbies for all interests and skill levels. Instructional books, kits and supplies are available as well as classes on cake decorating, cross-stitch, quilting, stained glass, flower arranging and toll painting. Custom services such as plaque and trophy engraving, T-shirt and cap designs are also available.

◆ **Stripes Lounge**
205 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 275-CLUB

Stripes Lounge, located within the Oasis Community Center, offers on-base airmen evening and late-night entertainment, dancing and socializing. The lounge is wired with a state-of-the-art audio and video entertainment system. Karaoke and dance contests are held occasionally.

SHOPPING & SERVICES

Air Force Flight Test Center Museum Gift Shop

→ 37 See "Air Force Flight Test Center Museum," page 37.

Alterations Shop

Lee's Tailoring and Design

Base Exchange, 240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.

(661) 258-5522

Alterations for uniforms or civilian clothes are available and require about five working days to complete. Rush orders may be completed in three days. Uniforms must be clean, and new uniforms must be dry-cleaned before any adjustments.

Banking

◆ **Armed Forces Bank**
Base Exchange, 240 W.
Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-0183

Armed Forces Bank specializes in military banking and has served active duty, retirees and civilians since 1907. Customers can bank worldwide by phone, Internet, Mail and ATM. In addition, the bank has a 24-hour account-information line and a call center with representatives available 24 hours a day to assist customers. Services offered include free checking, classic checking, interest-bearing checking, savings accounts, loans and certificates of deposit.

◆ **Edwards Federal Credit Union**
10 South Muroc Dr.
(661) 277-9639
44288 N. 10th St. West, Lancaster, Calif.
(661) 945-6626/6500

The Edwards Federal Credit Union offers members a full range of financial services including share-draft accounts, systematic savings plans and lowest-rate loans for emergencies, automobiles, mobile homes, recreational vehicles and new household furniture and appliances. Membership is open to all active duty or retired military; civilian personnel employees at Edwards; contractors and employees of contractors; and non-appropriated funds employees who work regularly at Edwards and members of their immediate families; and organizations comprised entirely of individuals in any of these categories.

◆ **ATMs**

The Edwards Federal Credit Union provides ATM access to six major ATM networks: the Armed Forces Financial Network, The Exchange, Instant Teller, Star System, Visa and Plus. The credit union is also a member of the EXPLORE point-of-sale network. Three of eight credit union-owned ATMs are located on base at the Edwards main office, 10 South Muroc Dr.; at the Base Exchange, 240 Fitzgerald Blvd;

Commissary parking lot, 310 W. Fitzgerald Blvd; and in the Shoppette, 1100 Kincheloe Ave. Another ATM is available at the Main Lodging Office at 602 Honts, just off Manzanita Way.

Barbershops

◆ **Troop Store**, 20 W. Popson Ave.

(661) 277-4297

◆ **Base Exchange**, 240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.

(661) 277-2946

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service operates two barber shops.



The electronics and (below) home furnishings departments of the Edwards AFB Base Exchange.

Base Exchange

240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-4327

The 73,000-square-foot Base Exchange complex is conveniently located near the family housing area. Departments include clothing for men, women and children; cosmetics and toiletries; office and stationery supplies; shoes; luggage; jewelry; giftware; housewares; electronics; hardware; and appliances. The complex also hosts military clothing sales, the alterations shop, the Armed Forces Bank, a food court, beauty and barbershops, a same-day optical shop, a florist and a General Nutritional Center. For

food court information, see → 38 "Dining," pages 38-39.

Beauty Shop

Base Exchange, 240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-5371

The Beauty Shop offers men, women and children hair-cutting and styling services. A variety of hair care products are also available.

Carcare Center and Gas Station

Lancaster and Fitzgerald Boulevards
(661) 258-5091

The Car Care Center and Gas Station are centrally located between main base and the housing areas. The center offers retail and automotive services and gasoline service islands that operate 24 hours a day with use of credit cards. Cash and checks can also be used during manned operating hours.

Class Six

1100 Kincheloe Ave.
(661) 277-0709

Class Six offers a variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages for sale. Alcoholic beverages will only be sold to those of legal drinking age.



Commissary produce area

Commissary

312 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 277-4589

Located next to the Base Exchange, the Commissary offers all the conveniences of a mid-sized modern super-market. Hours vary Tuesday through Sunday and the commissary is closed Mondays and federal holidays.

Dry Cleaners

Carousel Cleaners
1100 Kincheloe Ave.
(661) 258-4606

Dry cleaning of uniform items and other clothing typically requires two days if items are submitted before 1 p.m. Rush service is offered for a minimal fee and orders are processed for next-day or two-day return depending on time submitted.

Flower Shop

Base Exchange, 240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-5084

The Flower Shop offers a variety of flower and balloon arrangements and bouquets, and delivery to almost anywhere in the United States.

GNC

Base Exchange, 240- W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-1923

GNC, or General Nutrition Center, features a large variety of dietary supplements.

Laundromat

1320 Payne Ave.

Coin-operated, large washers and dryers are available for use.

Military Clothing Sales

Base Exchange, 240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 277-8136

Military Clothing Sales carries a full line of Air Force uniforms and miscellaneous items for Army and Marine service members.

Muroc Lake Golf Course Pro Shop

111 Crest Dr.
(661) 275-PUTT

The Muroc Lake Golf Club offers a well-stocked pro shop with the latest golf merchandise and sport clothing.

Optical Shop

Base Exchange, 240 W. Fitzgerald Blvd.
(661) 258-4541

The optical shop fills prescription glasses and contact lens orders and custom fits frames for existing lenses. Sunglasses and eyewear accessories are also available.

Pet Store

Country Home Pets
1170 Kincheloe Ave.
(661) 258-0888

8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. or by appointment
Country Home Pets offers pet supplies, pet-care

products, and grooming and boarding for dogs and cats. For more information, see "Pets" page 40.

**Shoppette**

1100 Kincheloe Ave.
(661) 258-0709

6 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Monday-Friday and 7 a.m.–12:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday

Located at the center of the family housing area, the Shoppette offers a movie-rental section and convenience shopping with extended hours.

Thrift Store

1320 Payne Ave.
(661) 277-4294

The volunteer operated and managed Thrift Store allows community members to purchase and cosign items such as clothing, housewares, furniture and electronics.

Troop Store

20 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 258-4797

Open 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Monday-Friday

Located within walking distance of base dormitories, the Troop Store offers a limited video rental section and convenience shopping for basic food items and toiletries.

SPORTS AND FITNESS

Fitness and Sports Center

**210 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 275-GYM1**

Family Fitness Center

**1100 Kincheloe Ave.
(661) 275-GYM2**

The Fitness and Sports Center features the latest in equipment and facilities for one-stop training including free weights and cardio and Hammer Strength equipment, as well as personal trainers. The facility features saunas in the men's and women's locker rooms, three racquetball courts, an outside track, and jogging and biking trails, as well as a number of mountain bikes for check-out at no cost. The service counter provides racquet restringing and a towel service. Massage therapy is also available for a fee by appointment only.

The Family Fitness Center, centrally located in the housing area, offers life cycles, treadmills, free weights and Cybex equipment for convenient workouts.

Intramural Sports

The Fitness and Sports Center oversees the intramural sports program at Edwards. Intramural sports include flag football, golf, softball, volleyball, racquetball, basketball and soccer.

Health and Wellness Center

**210 W. Popson Ave.
(661) 275-HAWC**

The Health and Wellness Center offers numerous programs aimed at preventative health and wellness. Through programs such as cholesterol screenings, skin cancer screenings, nutritional and behavioral impact education, stress reduction workshops, smoking cessation seminars, mammograms, and prostate/testicular exams, the HAWC promotes individual and organizational vitality, health, well-being, competence and professional growth and development.

SONIC BOOMS

A distinguishing characteristic of Edwards are the large "booms" first heard here in 1947. Those booms are known as sonic booms. A sonic boom sounds similar to thunder and is caused by an object moving faster than sound; about 750 mph at sea level. An aircraft traveling through the atmosphere continuously produces air pressure waves similar to the water waves produced by a ship's bow. When an aircraft exceeds the speed of sound, these pressure waves combine and form shock waves, which travel forward from the generation or "release" point.

As an aircraft flies at supersonic speeds, it is continually generating shock waves, dropping sonic boom along its flight path, similar to someone dropping objects from a moving vehicle. The sound heard on the ground as a sonic boom is the sudden onset and release of pressure after the build-up by the shock wave or "peak overpressure." Duration of a sonic boom is brief and is less than a second—100 milliseconds—for most fighter-sized aircraft.





The thunderous sonic booms heard on Edwards AFB are generated by aircraft like the F-22 Raptor, above.

USAF Photo

THEATER

**Corner of Yeager Boulevard and South Muroc Drive
(661) 275-SHOW**

The newly renovated, 932-seat motion-picture theater provides Edwards' military personnel and their families mainstream movies slightly delayed from initial release at an affordable rate for the whole family. Afternoon matinees are not regularly scheduled but they usually begin at 2 p.m. Evening features start at 7 p.m. Check the movie schedule that is printed each week in the base newspaper, The Desert Wings, or call the theater to hear a pre-recorded movie schedule. The theater may also be used for large community gatherings and commander's calls.

➔ 33

WEATHER

See page 33, Newcomers section.

YOUTH

Youth Activities Center

**24 Lathrop Dr.
(661) 275-KIDS**

The Youth Activities Center is the focal point for all youth activities at Edwards. A wide range of supervised and organized activities is available to youth ages 5 through 18. The center offers an array of youth, pre-teen and teen programs including dances, holiday and family events, picnics, and trips. Professional instruction is available through the center for ballet, tap, gymnastics and karate. The center relies on both youth and parents to take an active role in shaping programs.

School-age care is available for children ages 5 to 12 before and after school. The youth center provides transportation to and from the schools for this program.

Sports

Youth sports are facilitated through the Youth Activities Center and offer children a chance to compete and gain instruction and confidence in a number of sports including flag football, basketball, baseball, softball and soccer.

Teen Center

**1320 Payne St.
(661) 275-TEEN**

Open 3-6 p.m., Monday–Thursday; 3-11 p.m., Friday; and 6-11p.m. on Saturday. Center is closed on Sunday. The Teen Center is designed to give teens a place to go to after school and on the weekends. The center features pool tables, foosball tables, Internet access and video games. The center arranges programs such as paintball, glow bowling and alcohol awareness education.

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

Current points of contact for scouting organizations may be obtained by calling (661) 277-3433.

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops on base promote character, social and skill development, citizenship training, sportsmanship, physical and mental fitness, and pride in a growing mind and body for boys and girls in first through twelfth grades.

OFF BASE

Origin and History

At some time in the unrecorded past—thousands of years ago—an area of some 2,400 square miles was dropped, or depressed, about 100 feet below the surface of a vast coastal plain. When underground movement jarred the plain upward, the sunken area rose and became what is now known as Antelope Valley.

The Paiute Indians were the first known human inhabitants of the area. The first white visitors were most likely Spanish navy deserters, members of the Portola party traveling in the valley's vicinity in 1769. In pursuing these deserters, Lt. Pedro Fages, one of Spain's Catalonia volunteers, reached the southern end of the Antelope Valley in 1772. His diarist reports that Indians were seen lurking behind what were thought to be date palms, but were actually Joshua trees.

The year 1776 brought Father Francisco Garces and three Indian guides from the San Gabriel Mission. Garces recorded his views of the vast land that was then called El Tehon Rancheria, or the Badger Ranch, of the Cuabajoy Indians. In 1834, Kit Carson and Gen. John C. Fremont came through the valley and remained long enough to establish what is known today as Fort Tejon Road. Wildlife was so plentiful at that time that three geese were killed with one shot at Lake Elizabeth. Grass and desert growth was luxuriant and pools of water stood in many places over the valley floor.

The first determined settlers chose the Lake Elizabeth region and the foothills of the Tehachapi Mountains. The general area became known as the Antelope Valley because of the immense herds of these animals. Yet, hunters and severe winters in the late 1800s decimated the herds.

The Southern Pacific Railroad, between San Francisco and Los Angeles, was completed in 1876 with the rails from Los Angeles having been placed as far inland as Soledad Canyon to the south of the valley. The frantic race between the two large opposing work forces

The Antelope Valley is a grand expanse of blue skies and sunshine radiating in every direction from Edwards Air Force Base. To the south and west are majestic mountains and to the north and east, the undulating endlessness of the Mojave Desert.

ended with the ceremonial driving of the golden spike to join the rails and heralded the opening of the Antelope Valley to the outside world.

By 1890, the Antelope Valley was in a very prosperous condition, especially in the southern portion—Lancaster and Palmdale. Land seekers and settlers had come in large numbers. Many families with financial means settled in the eastern segment of the valley to begin raising grain and fruits and related agricultural products.

The year 1898 was a year of "firsts" for the valley. The previous year, borax had been discovered in the United States, and, in 1898, it was found that an immense deposit of borax lay beneath the desert landscape of the Antelope Valley. Within the same 12 months, gold was discovered in Rosamond. Men working the mines made their way across what was known then as Rodriguez Dry Lakebed, to and from work, on a V-shaped wagon rigged with sails.

The age of aviation came to the Antelope Valley in the 1930s when the Army Air Corps began training operations on the shores of the dry lakebed at the Muroc Bombing and Gunnery Range, now Edwards Air Force Base. During World War II, the dry lakebed "floated" a huge wooden battleship—the Muroc Maru—constructed to train bombardiers in the use of bombsites. Runways now bisect the lakebed.

Today, the Antelope Valley has learned to successfully blend the traditional pursuits of business, commerce, industry, agriculture and mining with the technology of the aerospace frontier, while remaining a place where people prefer to live and visitors return time and time again. This high desert area is known for its contributions to the defense of the nation with its close proximity to existing Department of Defense facilities, including Edwards, Air Force Plant 42 and China Lake Naval Weapons Center.

Valley Location

Antelope Valley, one of many valleys in the Mojave Desert, is bordered by the San Gabriel Mountains to the south, the Tehachapi Mountains to the west, the greater Mojave Desert to the north and Victor Valley to the east. Rosamond, Mojave, California City, Boron and the greater part of Edwards lie in Kern County in the northern part of the valley. Lancaster, Palmdale, Quartz Hill, Littlerock and the southern-most sliver of Edwards lie in Los Angeles County in the southern and central part of the valley. The eastern part of the valley falls within San Bernardino County.



ANNUAL EVENTS

MARCH

Almond Blossom Festival

Quartz Hill

(661) 722-4811

This unique local festival features a myriad of blooming almond trees on nearby Quartz Hill. The event also hosts the Almond Festival parade, one of the oldest parades in the Antelope Valley. The event is held the second weekend in March.

APRIL

California Poppy Festival

Lancaster City Park, Lancaster

(661) 723-6077

Celebrating Lancaster's most colorful seasonal visitors, the California Poppy, this event offers continuous family entertainment, wildflower arts and photo contests, an arts and crafts bazaar, environmental booths, unique cuisine, and free "Poppy Express" shuttle buses to and from the California Poppy Reserve. The event is held every April.

Ridgecrest/Inyokern Airshow and Balloon Festival

Inyokern Airport, Inyokern, Calif.

(760) 375-8787

The Airshow and Balloon Festival features hot air balloons, balloon rides, static displays and an airshow featuring military and civilian performances. Admission is free, but there is a parking fee. This event is sometimes held in April though traditionally in mid October.

JUNE

Tehachapi Valley Arts Association Spingtyme Fair

Tehachapi City Park, Tehachapi

(661) 822-1118

The two-day fair features arts, crafts, food booths, games and entertainment. The event is typically held the second weekend in June.

Indian Powwow

Indian Hill Campground,
Tehachapi

(661) 822-1118

This cultural and religious gathering of Native Americans features dance competitions, craft and skill demonstrations, and story telling. The event is ordinarily held the third weekend in June.

JULY

Wind Fair

Benz, Visco Sports Complex

Tehachapi, (661) 822-4180

This bi-annual celebration features stage and strolling entertainment, renewable energy exhibits, wind farm tours, and earthen arts and crafts. The next Wind Fair will be held in 2003.

AUGUST

Mountain Festival and Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association

Tehachapi City Park and Rodeo

Grounds, Tehachapi

(661) 822-4180

The biggest attraction for the year in Tehachapi is its Mountain Festival, coupled with the PRCA Rodeo. The festival and rodeo feature an arts and craft fair, more than 100 vendors, a pet parade, a Saturday night western dance and a classic car show. The festival and rodeo are held the third weekend in August each year.

Antelope Valley Fair and Alfalfa Festival

155 East Ave. I, Lancaster

(661) 948-6060, www.avfair.com

The annual fair features concerts, carnival rides, livestock competition, bake-offs and children's shows. Also included in the weeklong festivities are displays from Edwards and other local aerospace organizations. The fair is held each year in late August through early September.

SEPTEMBER

Rosamond Armed Forces

Appreciation Day and Parade

Diamond Street, Rosamond

(661) 256-3248

Downtown Rosamond celebrates and honors the armed forces with festivities that include a float parade and guest speakers. The event is on the third Saturday in September.

Aerospace Walk of Honor Celebration

Lancaster Boulevard, Lancaster

(661) 723-6053, www.cityoflancasterca.org

The ceremony attracts visitors to Lancaster Boulevard for the unveiling of granite monuments honoring Edwards' test pilots whose aviation careers are marked by significant flight test achievements. The annual event is held in September in conjunction with the Society of Experimental Test Pilots convention.

OCTOBER

Palmdale Fall Festival

McAdam Park, 30th Street East and Palmdale

(661) 267-5611

This family celebration features crafts, fine arts, games, live entertainment, international food booths and an aerospace exhibit. The event is held the second weekend in October each year.

DECEMBER

Lancaster Old Town Site Hospitality Walk

Lancaster Boulevard, Lancaster

(661) 942-1573

The businesses of Lancaster's downtown district open their doors to the community the first Friday evening of December. The businesses offer entertainment, food, refreshments, holiday crafts and music. The event is the business district's way of thanking the community for their patronage throughout the year.

ATTRACTIONS

◆ Aerospace Walk of Honor

Lancaster Boulevard, Lancaster
(661) 723-6053

www.cityoflancaster.org

The Aerospace Walk of Honor hosts granite monuments honoring Edwards Air Force Base test pilots whose aviation careers are marked by significant flight test achievements.

◆ Blackbird Airpark

25th Street East and Avenue P
Palmdale
(661) 277-8050

The Blackbird Airpark, dedicated in September 1991, is the world's only display of a Lockheed SR-71A together with its Blackbird predecessor, the A-12, and the once ultra-secret D-21 drone. The park is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

◆ Calico Ghost Town

Yermo, Calif.
(800) 862-2542

The Calico Ghost Town treats spectators to gunfight reenactments, historical shops and mines. Camping facilities, as well as RV hookups, are available. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except for Christmas.

◆ Devil's Punchbowl

28000 Devil's Punchbowl Road
Pearblossom, Calif.
(661) 944-2743

Devil's Punchbowl is a 1,300-acre park with a system of hiking trails, including a one-mile loop down a 300-foot-deep canyon. A visitor's center features an exhibit of native animals such as snakes, antelopes and owls. Picnic facilities are available.

◆ Exotic Feline Breeding Compound

Mojave-Tropical Road
Rosamond
(661) 256-3332

A wildlife compound dedicated to preserving rare and endangered felines, the compound is home to more than 40 cats from 15 different species. The compound has an adopt-a-cat program to encourage community members and visitors to become foster parents to the cats. The compound is closed Wednesdays.

◆ Kern River Whitewater Runs

Lake Isabella, Calif.
(760) 379-5236

The river is a favorite place for whitewater rafting and hosts tours May through September. Children under the age 8 are not permitted.

◆ Lake Isabella

Lake Isabella, Calif.
(760) 379-5236

Lake Isabella, created in 1953 when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dammed the Kern River, flourishes as a tourist center for fishing, boating, camping and picnicking. Boats for fishing or lake exploration may be rented at marinas along the shore. Detailed information is available at www.kernrivervalley.com.

◆ Lancaster JetHawks Baseball

45116 Valley Central Way,
Lancaster
(661) 726-5400,
www.jethawks.com

The Lancaster JetHawks are the California League Class-A farm team for the Arizona Diamondbacks and provide baseball enthusiasts local entertainment at the Lancaster Municipal Stadium. A military discount of \$1 per ticket is offered with the exception of general admission (grass seating) seats.

◆ Lancaster Performing Arts Center

750 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster
(661) 723-5950, www.lpac.org

The center provides top-quality entertainment as well as the finest symphonies, ballet troupes, holiday performances—such as "The Nutcracker" and "A Christmas Carol"—and musical performances of every kind, including jazz, classical, pop and more. Military members receive a 10 percent discount on LPAC season events.

◆ Los Angeles County Raceway

6850 E. Ave. T, Palmdale
(661) 533-2227

This quarter-mile drag strip, featuring National Hot Rod Association drag racing and the annual Palmdale meet, is open 365 days a year. Schedules and information can be found at www.lacr.net.

◆ Palmdale Playhouse

38334 10th St. East, Palmdale
(661) 267-5685

www.cityofpalmdale.org

The Palmdale Playhouse features a 360-seat theater and provides a wide variety of entertainment in its season lineup: country, jazz, dramas, children's programs and dance.

◆ Tehachapi Loop

Tehachapi, Calif.
(661) 822-4180

Railroad fans flock to the Tehachapi Loop where the spiraling Southern Pacific main line makes a 360-degree turn as it climbs from the valley to the mountains. More details may be found at www.tehachapi.com.

◆ Twenty Mule Team Museum

26962 Twenty-Mule Team Road
Boron, Calif.
(760) 762-5810

The Twenty Mule Team Museum features a 20-mule team wagon display, a replica of that used more than 100 years ago for long distance hauling purposes. The center also offers insights on the many different ways borax is used and how it is excavated from California's largest open-pit mine. The museum is open seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

◆ Willow Springs International Raceway

3500 75th St. West, Rosamond
(661) 256-2471/6666

The raceway hosts many types of international racing nearly every weekend to include Showroom Stock Endurance Racing, Indy Car Racing, motorcycle, ISMA, CANAM and many others. Schedules and more information may be found at www.willowspringsraceway.com.

◆ Wind Turbines

Tehachapi Mountains, Tehachapi
(661) 822-4180

The Tehachapi area is the world's largest producer of wind-generated electricity and hosts a mountainside of turbines. A wind turbine captures the energy of the wind to drive a generator. As the generator turns, it produces electricity.

COMMUNITY PROFILES

WHERE TEAM EDWARDS MEMBERS LIVE

Community	% Edwards' military	% Edwards' civilians
Boron	1	1
California City	17	10
Edwards	33	0.13
Lake Los Angeles	1	1
Lancaster	21	43
Littlerock	0.09	0.49
Palmdale/Quartz Hill	3	7
Pearblossom	0	0.18
Rosamond	24	21
Tehachapi	1	7
Victorville	1	9.2

Boron

Population: 3,002

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg: 23

Elected official: chamber of commerce president, James Welling

School system: Muroc Unified School District, (661) 258-4178

Chamber of commerce: 26962 Twenty Mule Team Road, Boron, Calif. 93516, (760) 762-5810

Web address: www.mrs.com/20MuleTeam

Located northeast of Edwards along California State Highway 58, the one-stoplight community of Boron is the site of a giant open-pit mine—from which the extracted element, borax, lends the town its name. The pit, the largest in the Western Hemisphere, is owned and operated by the U.S. Borax and Chemical Corp. and employs a great deal of the community. Edwards employs the remainder.

The town's people invest themselves in the preservation of the rich history of both Boron and Edwards. Kern County provides the community's branch library, fire station and sheriff department. The U.S. Post Office is centrally located on Boron Avenue.

California City

Population: 8,787

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 17

Elected official: Mayor Larry Adams

School system: Mojave Unified School District, (661) 824-4001

Chamber of commerce: 8001 California City Blvd., California City, Calif. 93505, (760) 373-8676

Web address: <http://city.california-city.ca.us>

Begun as a private commercial development, the community was incorporated in 1961 and ranks as the third largest incorporated city, in terms of land area, in California.

Located northwest of the base along Highway 58 and a northern jaunt on California City Boulevard, the small community offers all the enhancements of the original developer's grand vision: easy shopping, an 18-hole golf course and a central park offering swimming, boating, fishing, illuminated tennis courts, basketball and volleyball courts, picnic facilities, barbecue pits, children's playgrounds, bicycle, rentals, and a marina facility.

Churches

Nearly all faiths and denominations are represented in the Antelope Valley area. Local chambers of commerce listed on the following pages can provide detailed information.

Lancaster

Population: 123,147

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 29

Elected official: Mayor Frank Roberts

School system: Antelope Valley Union High School District, (661) 948-7655; Eastside Union School District, (661) 946-2813; Lancaster School District, (661) 948-4661, Westside Union School District, (661) 948-2669.

Chamber of commerce: 554 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, Calif. 93534, (661) 948-4518

Web address: www.cityoflancasterca.org

A thriving, civic-spirited community, Lancaster has enjoyed unprecedented growth and prosperity in the last decade. During this time, Lancaster has grown to be the commercial and business center of the Antelope Valley and promises to continue such growth.

With proximity to the Los Angeles metropolitan area and yet clean air and blue skies, the community is an affordable choice conveniently located to much of southern California's attractions and aerospace industry employment. Lancaster has a council-manager/administer form of government with five elected council members and 230 full-time employees. All public safety services, including police and fire, are provided by the County of Los Angeles, while the sheriff's department performs contract-based services, and the fire department performs under a Fire Protection District approach.

Mojave

Population: 3,863

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg: 35

Elected official: Unincorporated

School system: Mojave Unified School District, (661) 824-4001

Chamber of commerce: (661) 824-2418 or call the Kern Economic Development Corporation at (661) 862-5150 (www.kedc.com)

Web address: www.kerncog.org

Mojave sits at the junction of California Highways 14 and 58 and to some is a gateway to such popular spots as Mammoth and the Eastern Sierras, Las Vegas, Eastern Mojave Desert and the Los Angeles Basin. But Mojave itself is the location of several natural wonders and historical sites that include mining ghost towns and more.

Anyone driving through Mojave is certain to notice the Mojave Airport. Known to many as the civilian flight test center, the airport is unique in its locale and environmental conditions and is known both for its flight-test activities and for the maintenance and storage services provided to the airline industry.

North Edwards

Population: 1,343

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 9

Elected official: none

School system: Muroc Joint Unified School District, (661) 258-4178
North Edwards is an unincorporated bedroom community just north of Edwards along Highway 58. School-age children go to school at Edwards. Housing is affordable, though shopping convenience is limited.

Palmdale

Population: 123,717

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 39

Elected official: Mayor James Ledford

School system: Palmdale School District, (661) 947-7191; Wilsona Elementary School District (661) 264-1111

Chamber of commerce: 38260 10th St. East, Palmdale, Calif. 93550, (661) 273-3232

Web address: www.cityofpalmdale.org

Located south of Lancaster along California State Highway 14, Palmdale's biggest industry—and employer—is aerospace. Thousands of residents are employed at Air Force Plant 42 Production Flight Test Installation and Edwards Air Force Base.

Plant 42 is a huge complex including more than 8 million square feet of covered space. McDonnell Douglas, Lockheed and Northrop have produced jet aircraft there. Producers, manufacturers, wholesalers, government and business services comprise 76 percent of the city's employment force. Natural resources also provide employment in the fields of sand, gravel, rock and cement production.

A community with projected growth, Palmdale has a civic foundation in the Palmdale Cultural Center, Palmdale Playhouse and Poncitlan Square, a park fashioned after one in Poncitlan, Mexico, Palmdale's sister city.

Quartz Hill

Population: 16,984

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 35

School system: Westside School District, (661) 722-0716

Chamber of commerce: 5021 West Ave. M, Quartz Hill, Calif. 93536, (661) 722-4811

Quartz Hill, a small, primarily residential, unincorporated community, is situated just four and a half miles west of Lancaster and Palmdale. Residents enjoy the rustic qualities of the town with horseback riding on many trails, fishing in the nearby California Aqueduct, and a view of nature. The community is known for its almond orchards and the annual almond festival parade.

Rosamond

Population: 14,950

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 19

Elected official: Mayor Dee Ewing

School system: Southern Kern Unified School District, (661) 256-5000
Chamber of commerce: 2861 Diamond Street, Rosamond, Calif. 94560, (661) 256-3248

Just a straight shot west of Edwards along Rosamond Boulevard, the small community of Rosamond is a mecca for rockhounds with its cradling and abundant hillside landscape of beautiful rocks—especially at Gem Hill, located four miles north of the community.

Kern County provides fire and police protection in addition to supporting a community recreation building and park with lighted baseball diamond. Agriculture pertinent to the area includes alfalfa, sugar beets, potatoes and onions. The community also hosts a community/senior center.

Tehachapi

Population: 27,907

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 45

Elected official: Mayor John Rombouts

School system: Tehachapi Unified School District, (661) 822-2100
Chamber of commerce: P.O. Box 401, Tehachapi, Calif. 93581, (661) 822-4180

Located in the mountains about 45 miles from the base and about 4,000 feet above sea level, Tehachapi offers a cool alternative to the warm Mojave Desert summers.

Tehachapi has a rural atmosphere with farming as a way of life for many residents. Award-winning livestock are common in the area as well as famous apples, pears and cherries.

Area residents visit Tehachapi year round for the Mountain Festival, the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association Rodeo in August, the apple and pumpkin harvest in the fall, and the cool mountain breezes in the summer.

Victorville

Population: 64,500

Miles from Air Force Flight Test Center Headquarters Bldg.: 55

Elected official: Mayor Terry Caldwell

School system: Victor Valley Union High School District, (760) 955-3200; Victor Elementary School District, (760) 245-1691

Chamber of commerce: P.O. Box 997, Victorville, Calif. 92392, (760) 245-6506

Web address: <http://vvchamber.com>

Located to the east of Edwards in the high desert of Victor Valley, Victorville is accessible via interstates 15 and 395, conveniently linking the city with all other areas of Southern California.

The community encompasses approximately 68 square miles and has experienced an annual growth in population of nearly 19 percent.

COLLEGES

Antelope Valley College

30th Street and Avenue K

Lancaster

(661) 943-3241

Antelope Valley College offers a diverse selection of two-year academic and vocational programs.

California State University Bakersfield

Antelope Valley College Campus

30th Street and Avenue K, Lancaster

(661) 664-2011

Cal State University Bakersfield offers a variety of classes on the Antelope Valley College campus.

University of LaVerne

41253 12th St. West, Palmdale

(818) 846-4008

University of LaVerne hosts a satellite campus in Palmdale and offers four-year bachelor's degrees and master's degrees in business administration and health services management.

HOSPITALS

Antelope Valley Hospital

1600 West Ave. J, Lancaster, (661) 949-5000

Lancaster Community Hospital

43830 10th Street West, Lancaster, (661) 948-4781

High Desert Hospital

44900 N. 60th Street West, Lancaster, (661) 948-8581



MUSEUMS

Antelope Valley African-American Museum

416 W. Lumber, Lancaster

(661) 723-0811

The museum begins at the beginning of mankind and continues depicting mankind through today with artifacts, sculptures and international art.

Antelope Valley Indian Museum

15701 East Avenue M., Lancaster

(661) 946-3055

www.avim.av.org

Originally built as a private home, the museum is built into and around the rocks of Piute Butte in the Mojave Desert. The museum highlights the valley's Indian culture.

Lancaster Museum/Art Gallery

44801 Sierra Highway, Lancaster

(661) 723-6250

www.cityoflancaster.ca.us/parks.htm

The museum and gallery feature a variety of local, regional and international art and historic exhibits. The gallery hosts a rotating exhibit, a juried all-media art exhibition and a student art exhibition.

Roy Rogers and Dale Evans Museum

15650 Seneca Rd., Victorville, Calif.

(760) 243-4547

www.royrogers.com

The museum hosts the personal and professional memorabilia of the western television stars.

Twenty Mule Team Museum

26962 Twenty Mule Team Road

Boron, Calif.

(760) 762-5810

The museum embraces both the history of aerospace as forged at Edwards and the history of the famous Borax Twenty Mule Team days, all in a renovated house that used to be near a borax mine campsite.

Western Hotel Museum

557 West Lancaster Blvd.

(661) 723-6260

www.cityoflancasterca.org/Parks/westernhotel.htm

Lancaster's oldest structure displays Antelope Valley artifacts. Still visible on a sidewalk behind the museum are the footprints of a young Frances Gumm, better known as Judy Garland, from the days of her childhood in Lancaster.



Antelope Valley Mall

PARKS AND RECREATION

Lancaster National Soccer Center

43000 30th St. East, Lancaster

This 169-acre complex with 32 fields attracts regional and national tournaments to Lancaster, in addition to serving local youth and adult soccer teams. It's the largest facility of its kind in the western United States.

Lancaster City Park and Big 8 Softball Complex

43011 10th St. West, Lancaster

(661) 723-6276

The park features the Stanley Kleiner Activity Center, a children's playground and tennis center with eight lighted courts. The largest of all softball complexes in California, the Big 8 is known as the "Softball Tournament Destination Location."

Saddleback Butte State Park

Avenue J and 170th Street East, Lancaster

(661) 942-0662, www.calparksmojave.com

Hiking is available through park trails. Camping is also available for a fee at any of 40 campsites.

Red Rock Canyon State Park

California State Highway 14, Mojave

(661) 942-0662, www.calparksmojave.com

Located 23 miles northeast of Mojave, the park features spectacular red and gray sandstones that have eroded into a variety of shapes.

SHOPPING

Lancaster and Palmdale provide base personnel extensive shopping opportunities. Both feature virtually every national and regional retail store, making it unnecessary to travel outside the Antelope Valley for goods and services.

Lancaster's main shopping area is located on Valley Central Way just off California State Highway 14 at exits for either avenue I or J, about 30 minutes from base housing. Palmdale's primary shopping area is anchored by the Antelope Valley Mall, the area's only covered shopping mall, located on West Avenue P, just off the California State Highway 14 at the exit for 10th Street, about 40 minutes from base housing.

Also popular are the outlet stores in Barstow, located one hour west of the base off California State Highway 58, and in Ontario, about one and a half hours south of the base near the intersections of interstate highways 10 and 15.

Large mall complexes in the Los Angeles area are one to two hours away via California State Highway 14.

TRANSPORTATION

Antelope Valley Airport Express

42540 6th Street East, Lancaster

(661) 945-2529

AV Airport Express offers the only airport shuttle to Los Angeles International Airport from the Antelope Valley.

Antelope Valley Transit Authority

1031 West Ave. L-12, Lancaster

(661) 945-9445, www.avta.com

The AV Transit Authority provides local public bus transportation primarily within Palmdale and Lancaster. Commuter transit between the Antelope Valley and the Los Angeles metropolitan area is also available. Dial-a-ride service is offered for senior citizens and disabled individuals.

Greyhound Bus Company

44949 North Yucca, Lancaster

(661) 945-2827

Metro-Link

(800) 371-5465

Built in the aftermath of the 1994 Northridge earthquake, the Metro-Link stations and commuter train service provide residents with a convenient and affordable mode of travel to the Los Angeles area.

Palmdale Airport

Currently, there is no commercial passenger flight travel in the Antelope Valley. However, developers are working to attract commercial flights to the Palmdale Airport.

BEYOND THE LOCAL AREA

COMMUNITY PROFILES

Bakersfield

Chamber of Commerce

1725 Eye St. • Bakersfield, CA 93301

(661) 327-4421, www.bakersfield.org/chamber

Bakersfield is the seat of Kern County, at the heart of California's "Golden Empire."

The substantial community is located approximately 85 miles west of Edwards along California State Highway 58. The downtown hosts more than 138 retail establishments, financial institutions, theaters and restaurants. Valley Plaza, located on Ming Avenue and Highway 99, has more than 100 stores and serves as the regional shopping center.

Barstow

Chamber of Commerce

409 E. Fredericks St., Suite 216, P.O. Box 698

Barstow, CA 92311

(760) 256-8617, www.exploring-barstow.com

Barstow is located midway between the popular tourist destinations of southern California and Las Vegas, Nev., approximately 50 miles east of Edwards. Situated at the crossroads of interstate 15 and 40, and state highways 58 and 247, the community provides outlet mall shopping with more than 95 outlet stores.

California Division of Tourism

P.O. Box 1499 • Sacramento, Calif. • 95812-1499

(800) 862-2543 • <http://gocalif.ca.gov>

From Edwards, all of California is at your doorstep. The California Office of Tourism can provide a wealth of information regarding the myriad of activities and outdoor recreation offered by the Golden State.

Hollywood

Chamber of Commerce

7018 Hollywood Blvd. • Hollywood, CA 90028

(323) 469-8311, <http://hollywoodcoc.org>

Hollywood is famous as a movie-making town and the home of many stars. Some of its attractions include Mann's Chinese Theatre, the Walk of Fame, Hollywood studio and backlot tours, and live filming. Mann's Chinese Theatre is renown for hosting the handprints and footprints of the entertainment industry's major stars imprinted in concrete in front of the theater, located at 6925 Hollywood Blvd. A section of the Walk of Fame, where more than 2,000 famous celebrities' names are engraved in stars along the sidewalk, is also found on Hollywood Boulevard. Many sightseeing tours are also available to get a sneak peek at film studios and backlots, Hollywood landmarks, and celebrity homes.

ABC, CBS and NBC television studios offer a variety of audience participation shows. Advance application is recommended as some shows have waiting lists up to six months. Ticket requests must include a stamped return envelope and must indicate the name of the desired show, plus the desired date.

AMUSEMENT PARKS & ATTRACTIONS

Disneyland

1313 Harbor Blvd.

Anaheim, Calif.

(714) 781-4400

<http://disney.go.com/Disneyland>

One of America's favorite amusement parks is located in Anaheim, approximately 130 miles south of Edwards. Disneyland features six different theme areas: Tomorrowland, Frontierland, Fantasyland, Adventureland, Bear Country and New Orleans Square. Each area features rides and exhibits to match its theme. Adjacent to Disneyland is Disney's California Adventure theme park, as well as the new Downtown Disney District.

Knott's Berry Farm

8039 Beach Blvd.

Buena Park, Calif.

(714) 220-5200

www.knotts.com

This family attraction, located 130 miles south of Edwards, features a variety of thrill rides and theme areas, including Old West Ghost Town, Fiesta Village, Wild Water Wilderness and Camp Snoopy.

San Diego Zoo

Balboa Park, San Diego, Calif.

(619) 234-3153

www.sandiegozoo.org

The San Diego Zoo is one of the largest zoos in the world and encompasses more than 100 landscaped acres of tropical and subtropical vegetation. More than 3,200 animals from 800 species, some of which are the rarest specimens in the world, can be witnessed in their unique habitats in barless, moated enclosures. A children's zoo allows children the chance to pet the gentler animals.

Las Vegas

Chamber of Commerce
3720 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 100
Las Vegas, NV 89109
(702) 735-1616, www.lvchamber.com

Las Vegas is a city that never sleeps and boasts nightlife as its biggest attraction. The city draws more than 12 million visitors annually to its gambling tables, slot machines and big-name entertainment at luxurious hotel casinos along the famous strip.

While much of Las Vegas is restricted to those over 21, it is possible for the whole family to enjoy a visit. Several of the newer resorts offer theme park rides and carnival style games of chance for younger visitors.

Also, within the vicinity of Las Vegas is Lake Mead, just a 30-minute drive away from the city. Sailing, water skiing, wind surfing, motor boating, fishing, swimming and canyon exploring are all readily available for the outdoors enthusiast. Hoover Dam, which created the lake, is considered one of the engineering wonders of the world and may be toured daily.

Las Vegas is located three and a half to four hours northeast of Edwards, a nearly straight shot along California State Highway 58 through Barstow to Interstate 15 East across the state line.



Sea World

1720 S. Shores Rd.
San Diego, Calif.
(619) 226-3901
www.seaworld.org
Sea World is one of California's most popular marine parks. The park's 135 acres are home to a vast array of sea life including Shamu, the world-famous two-ton killer whale. Live shows include the antics of dolphins, sea lions and walruses. The "Penguin Encounter" is an exhibit on two and half acres containing more than 400 penguins.

Six Flags Magic Mountain

26101 Magic Mountain Parkway
Valencia, Calif.
(661) 255-4111
www.sixflags.com/magicmountain
Spread out over 260 acres, the amusement park offers more than 100 shows, attractions and rides to keep the whole family entertained.

Universal Studios

Universal City, Calif.
(818) 508-9600
www.universalstudios.com/unicity2
Universal Studios allows visitors to sneak a peek behind the scenes of movie making. Tram rides through

backlots and studios, costumes and props, sound stages, and special effects demonstrations reveal the secrets of hit movies and television shows.

BASEBALL

Three Major League Baseball teams call southern California home.

◆ **Anaheim Angels**, (888) 796-4256, www.angelsbaseball.com
◆ **Los Angeles Dodgers**, (800) 636-3437, www.dodgers.com
◆ **San Diego Padres**, (619) 297-2373, www.padres.com

Los Angeles Metropolitan Area

www.los-angeles-california.com

Los Angeles is California's largest city, both in population and in territory—nearly 470 square miles, roughly the same size as Edwards AFB. The city ranks second in city and metropolitan area population in the United States. Los Angeles is a collection of intermingling communities, each with its own identity and character. The area thrives on tourism, world trade and highly diversified industries—predominantly oil, electronics, finance, entertainment, real estate, aircraft and aerospace.

Even with 3.5 million residents, Los Angeles is hardly a city in the traditional sense; it lacks a concentrated urban center and rather sprawls on in every direction, from sea and shore to the Hollywood hills. A dense network of interstates grid the basin and support the flux of traffic from dawn 'til dusk.

San Diego

San Diego Visitor Information Center
2688 East Mission Bay Drive
San Diego, CA, 92109

(619) 276-8200, www.infosandiego.com

Nicknamed "America's Finest City," San Diego is one of the most popular stops for tourists visiting California. For more than 200 years, this city has been attracting visitors from all over the world.

San Diego Bay is a large natural harbor that is pivotal for commerce and for the military presence in the area. The bay is home to the Navy's 3rd Fleet, which houses and maintains its ships and subs in the harbor. The U.S. Naval and Marine Training Centers and the U.S. Naval Air Station surround the bay.

San Diego is located approximately 180 miles south of Edwards, a straight southern jaunt along Interstate 15 through San Bernardino and Riverside.

◆ **Catalina Island**

Visitors Bureau and Chamber of Commerce
#1 Green Pier, P.O. Box 217
Avalon, CA 90704
(310) 510-1520
www.visitcatalina.org
Twenty-two miles across the ocean from mainland Los Angeles is Catalina Island. Discovered more than 400 years ago as a hideout for smugglers and pirates, the island is one of southern California's most popular resorts. Avalon is the island's only city, and Avalon Bay is the site of the island's most famous landmark, the Casino Building. The island can be reached by sea or air, and there are a variety of express services available.

◆ **Los Angeles County**

<http://beaches.co.la.ca.us>
Popular Los Angeles area beaches include Malibu, Santa Monica, Venice, Manhattan and Long beaches. Los Angeles County beaches offer swimming, surfing, sand volleyball, bike and roller-blade paths, piers, fishing and numerous concessions. Public restrooms and showers are usually available.

BEACHES

The beautiful and diverse terrain along the California coast offers a wealth of activities to enjoy, many of which are readily accessible from California's Pacific Coast Highway or California State Highway 1.

To the north, the water and weather are rough, giving the coastline a rugged character. To the south, the water is calmer, the beaches are wider, and the climate more temperate.

◆ **Monterey, Big Sur and Morro Bay**

www.mpcc.com, www.bigsurcalifornia.org,
www.morro-bay.net

Big Sur is a favorite stretch of California coastline, between the towns of Carmel and Lucia. For approximately 50 miles, Pacific Coast Highway 1 winds between the Pacific Ocean and a redwood forest. The Santa Lucia Mountains rise steeply from the ocean, and the canyons contain groves of trees. Summer fogs can linger most of the day; the best time to experience the route is in the afternoon.

Ocean life—whales, dolphins, sea lions and frolicking sea otters—teems off the coast and is a common site.

Sea otters are found in great numbers from Monterey Bay to Morro Bay, while sea lions are commonly seen near the shore or on the rocks. Whale watching is a popular pastime during the winter. Many seaside communities offer excursions to catch a close-up view of the California gray whale's annual 6,000-mile migration.

◆ **San Diego**

www.sannet.gov/lifeguards/beaches
The city of San Diego has about 17 miles of Pacific Ocean shores and is known nationwide for its beautiful beaches. Popular beaches in the area include La Jolla, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach and Coronado on Coronado Island. Recreational water activities such as surfing, "boogie" boarding, snorkeling, scuba diving and swimming are common at area beaches.

Mission Bay Park has become a popular spot for visitors as well as area residents. The 4,600-acre aquatic park has beaches, bike trails, boat-launching ramps, a golf course, picnic grounds, playgrounds, resort hotels and restaurants. Most visitors usually plan a full day's activities here or just a relaxing day enjoying the sun and scenery.

Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base

(760) 430-4701
Camp Pendleton's Ward Lodge is located 40 miles north of San Diego on Interstate Highway 5.

Camp San Luis Obispo

(805) 594-6500
This California Army National Guard post is located five miles northeast of the city of San Luis Obispo, California, on Pacific Coast Highway 1.

China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station

(760) 939-2383
China Lake is located 60 miles almost directly north of Edwards Air Force Base.

Coronado Naval Amphibious Base

(619) 437-3860
The island of Coronado and the naval base are located five miles south of San Diego. The accommodations are close to Coronado Beach, Sea World and a myriad of other San Diego attractions.

Fort Irwin National Training Center

(760) 380-4599
The center is located roughly 55 miles northeast of San Bernardino, Calif., and north on Interstate 15 near Barstow.

Nellis Air Force Base

(888) AF-LODGE
Nellis' Air Force Inn is located eight miles northeast of Las Vegas.

North Island Naval Air Station

(800) NAVY-INN
North Island's Navy Lodge is located five miles southwest of San Diego.

Point Mugu Naval Air Station

(805) 989-8407
Point Mugu is located eight miles south of Oxnard, Calif., and 40 miles north of Santa Monica, Calif., on Pacific Coast Highway 1.

Port Hueneme Naval Construction

(800) NAVY-INN
Port Hueneme's Navy Lodge is located 25 miles southeast of Santa Barbara, Calif.

MILITARY LODGING

The following listing is not complete, but presents some of the more popular military lodging opportunities in and around Southern Calif..

San Diego Naval Submarine Base

(619) 553-9381
The submarine base's Dolphin Lodge and Inn is located within the city limits of San Diego.

Travis Air Force Base

(888) AF-LODGE
Travis' West Wind Inn is located 45 miles northeast of San Francisco.

Vandenberg Air Force Base

(888) AF-LODGE
Vandenberg AFB, located 22 miles south of Santa Maria, Calif., offers accommodations at the Vandenberg Lodge.

MISSIONS

www.ca-missions.org/contact.html

In 1768, fearing that Russia or Britain would establish outposts in California, the Spanish formulated a plan of colonization by founding missions, forts and pueblos to secure the land for the Spanish crown.

Father Junipero Serra officiated the founding of the first establishment in San Diego. Eventually, a chain of 21 California missions would extend from San Diego to the San Francisco area. Communities have developed around most of the missions, but each—in its individual way—continues to perpetuate the flavor of the Spanish era. Every mission has its distinctive architecture and restful gardens. Many have rooms and even formal museums filled with picturesque artifacts which help visitors visualize the era when the missions were California's only points of Western European-style civilization.

The missions are open to the public. Some offer individually-guided tours, while others provide self-guided literature. Nominal admission charges or donations are requested.

MUSEUMS

Getty Center

1200 Getty Center Dr.

Los Angeles, Calif.

(310) 440-7300

www.getty.edu/museum

The Getty Center unites the J. Paul Getty Trust's museum, institutes and grant program in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains. The centerpiece of the 110-acre complex is the museum and its collections of pre-20th century European paintings, drawings, illuminated manuscripts, sculpture, decorative arts and photographs.

Kidspace Museum

390 S. El Molino Ave.

Pasadena, Calif.

(626) 449-6840

Kidspace has exhibits and programs in the arts, sciences and humanities that promote imagination, exploration and discovery through an interactive learning environment. Hands-on exhibits include a TV studio, fire station and beach scene.

L.A. County Museum of Art

5905 Wilshire Blvd.

Los Angeles, Calif.

(323) 857-6000

The L.A. County Museum of Art is a five-building complex housing paintings, sculpture, costumes, textiles and decorative art from around the world. The collections comprise more than 150,000 works and span the history of art from ancient times to the present. In addition to presenting more than 30 exhibitions each year, the museum also sponsors concerts, film programs and lectures that complement its collections.

Movieland Wax Museum

7711 Beach Blvd.

Buena Park, Calif.

(714) 522-1155

www.movielandwaxmuseum.com/mwm.html

Visitors can see their favorite film stars—at least wax-molded figures of them—one block north of Knott's Berry Farm. Some of the most memorable scenes in motion pictures are recreated in exacting detail. The museum also has a Chamber of Horrors.

Natural History Museum of L.A. County

900 Exposition Blvd.

Los Angeles, Calif.

(213) 763-3466

www.nhm.org

The Natural History Museum has detailed habitats of African, North American and exotic mammals; birds, insects and marine life; dinosaur displays and prehistoric fossils; and mineral and cut gemstone collections. The Pavilion of Wings lets visitors walk among hundreds of free-fluttering butterflies. History galleries depict life in California from 1540 to the present.

San Diego Aerospace Museum

Aerospace Historical Center

Pan American Plaza

Balboa Park, Calif.

(619) 234-8291,

www.AerospaceMuseum.org

The history of aviation from the dawn of flight to the age of space travel is depicted through displays featuring early gliders, a Kitty Hawk Flyer, a Spirit of St. Louis replica, barnstorming, early mail planes, World War II aircraft, modern fighters and a NASA space capsule.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Big Bear Lake

Big Bear Chamber of Commerce
630 Bartlett Rd.

Big Bear, Calif.

(909) 866-4607

www.bigbeartouristbureau.com

Big Bear Lake and Valley are located about 30 miles northeast of San Bernardino in the San Bernardino Mountains. Camping and horseback riding are popular in the summer. Hunting and fishing are permitted in season.

Death Valley National Park

Death Valley, Calif.

(760) 786-2331

www.nps.gov/deva

Death Valley, located on the eastern edge of California, encompasses more than 3 million acres and has elevations ranging from 282 feet below sea level to 11,049 feet above sea level.

Sequoia and King's Canyon National Parks

Three Rivers, Calif.

(559) 565-3341

www.nps.gov/seki

Home of the largest trees in the world, King's Canyon and Sequoia national parks are open year round. Bus tours within the parks are available daily in the summer.

Yosemite National Park

Yosemite National Park, Calif.

(209) 372-0200

www.nps.gov/yose/yo_visit.htm

Yosemite's landscape spans about 1,189 square miles of parkland. Visitors can witness Yosemite Falls, which plummet 2,425 feet—11 times further than Niagara—and Half Dome, a structure halved by moving ice masses millions of years ago. The park lies in central California on the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas and serves as a getaway for hiking and camping activities.

SKIING

California features the ski slopes beyond the coastline and invites residents and visitors to take to the white-topped mountains in the San Bernardino National Forest, San Gabriel Mountains and the Sierra Nevadas. Skiing is as close as one hour away from Edwards.

◆ **Bear Mountain Ski Resort**
Big Bear Lake, Calif.
(800) BEARMTN
www.bearmtn.com

◆ **Mountain High Ski Resort**
Wrightwood, Calif.
(888) 754-7878
www.mthigh.com

◆ **June Mountain Ski Resort**
June Lake, Calif.
(888) JUNEMTN
www.junemountain.com

◆ **Snow Summit Ski Resort**
Big Bear Lake, Calif.
(909) 866-5766
www.snowsummit.com

◆ **Mammoth Ski Resort**
Mammoth Lakes, Calif.
(800) MAMMOTH
www.mammoth-mtn.com

◆ **Snow Valley Ski Resort**
Running Springs, Calif.
(909) 867-2751
www.snow-valley.com

◆ **Mount Baldy Ski Resort**
Upland, Calif.
(909) 981-3344
www.mtbaldy.com



SPACE-AVAILABLE TRAVEL

Los Angeles International Airport

- Terminal 2, Departure Level Customer Service branch: (310) 363-0714/0715 or DSN 833-0714/0715.
 - Recorded flight information: (800) 756-2640 or DSN 833-0716.
 - Marine liaison: (800) 723-3080 or DSN 833-1997/3590.
- Although Edwards has no space-available program, space-available travel, made accessible through the Air Mobility Command Gateway, is provided at Los Angeles International Airport and provides affordable travel to military members on limited flight schedules. Destinations may include Seattle; Osan, Korea; and Kadena and Misawa, Japan. Space-available sign-up may be accomplished in person or via the Internet, fax or email, at www.travis.af.mil/space_a/lasindex.htm; (310) 363-2790 or DSN 833-2790; or spacealax@travis.af.mil, respectively. Passengers are cautioned that all flights are subject to change without notice. Other military space-available travel gateways include: March Air Reserve Base, Calif., (909) 655-2397 or DSN 947-2397; Travis Air Force Base, Calif., (800) 787-2534 or DSN 837-2048; Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Wash., (877) 863-1463 or DSN 982-5555; and McChord AFB, Wash., (260) 984-5327 or DSN 982-5327.

VINEYARDS

◆ Napa Valley

www.freerun.com/napavalley/mwinerie.html

Wine is made all over Calif., but the term "Wine Country" is associated with Napa and Sonoma counties. The area is located northeast of San Francisco and has been made famous for the hundreds of wineries found in the region. State Road 29 runs throughout the valley and passes many well-known vintners. From Edwards, head north on California State Highway 58 to Bakersfield. From there, call individual wineries for specific directions.

◆ Lake County

Lake County, bordered by Napa Valley on the south and Sonoma and Mendocino counties on the west, has five wineries, four of which are open to the public. Nearly 3,000 acres of vineyards produce the award-winning wines grown there. In addition to tasting the wines, the area offers boating, fishing, water sports, camping and sightseeing.

◆ Guimarra Vineyards

Bakersfield, Calif.
(661) 395-7088

Closer to home along Edison Highway in Bakersfield, Calif., are three generations of vintners that have been producing wine on the slopes of the Sierra Nevadas, and they are justifiably proud of their product.

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

At Edwards, the mission and the natural environment go hand-in-hand. The unique physical environment makes the high desert an ideal place for flight test activities. Helping the flight testers maintain access to the air, land and water for testing and other operations—while not upsetting the delicate balance of the desert ecosystem—is the mission of the Environmental Management Office.

To effectively accomplish its mission, Environmental Management has adopted a four-pillar approach. Appropriate personnel are consulted during the planning and implementation stages of all test programs and construction projects at Edwards. The four pillars are:

- **Cleanup:** The identification, investigation, management and cleanup of hazardous waste sites is aimed at protecting human health and the environment.
- **Conservation:** Environmental assessments are provided for test programs and construction projects to survey potential impact. Efforts to manage the protection and preservation of natural resources and cultural and historic sites at Edwards also fall within the conservation pillar.
- **Pollution Prevention:** Processes are developed to minimize the use of hazardous material, the generation of hazardous waste and the deposition of solid waste in a landfill. Pillar efforts emphasize reuse and recycling programs.
- **Compliance:** Air quality, water quality, hazardous waste, aboveground and underground storage tanks, and special programs concerning issues such as asbestos and lead-based paint are monitored, measured and carefully managed. Compliance personnel help base organizations select, design and install low-emission equipment, as well as with application for and maintenance of permits. The goal of compliance is to meet and satisfy all applicable environmental laws, rules and regulations.

Base environmental personnel dedicated to all four pillars actively work with regulatory agencies and the community in a spirit of cooperation and commitment to ensure the Air Force Flight Test Center and its associates accomplish the mission while respecting the environment.

Protecting the environment at Edwards includes recreational activities. Riding motorcycles and three- and four-wheel all-terrain cycles is allowed, but only in designated areas and only after participants have completed desert tortoise training. Riders must stay on existing trails and must not pick up any cultural, historic or prehistoric artifacts they find. Leave them where they were found and notify Environmental Management.

The desert tortoise, listed by both the federal government and California as a threatened species, is native to the Mojave Desert and Edwards. Biologists actively manage the base's desert tortoise population. Because the species is protected, anyone who causes harm to a desert tortoise is subject to heavy fines and penalties.

Supporting Edwards Air Force Base Through Sound Environmental Stewardship

Rogers (pictured here, background) and Rosamond dry lakebeds are two unique natural resources that help make Edwards the site of the premier flight test facility. The lakebeds are among the lowest points in the Antelope Valley and collect personal rain and snow runoff from surrounding hills and also from the San Gabriel Mountains to the south and the Tehachapi Mountains to the west. At one time the lakebeds contained water year-round, but changing weather patterns have caused the surfaces to be void of vegetation and contain water only after infrequent rains and snow falls.

